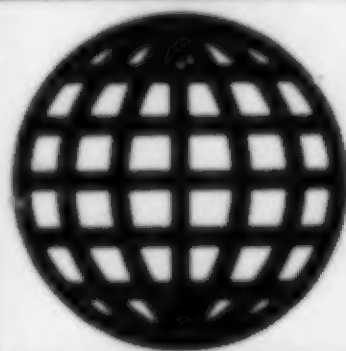




**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

East Asia

**FBIS-EAS-93-050
Wednesday
17 March 1993**

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-050

CONTENTS

17 March 1993

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

No 'Majority' Support for Early G-7 Summit [KYODO]	1
Official: No Comment on Russian Rescheduling [KYODO]	1
Ex-Im Bank To Extend \$100 Million to Russia [KYODO]	1
Official Wants Target for Foreign Chip Share [KYODO]	2
Talks Open With U.S. on Construction Access [KYODO]	2
Kono Views Concern Over PRC Military Spending [KYODO]	2
Mission Planned To Inspect PRC Oil Field [KYODO]	3
Conditions 'Ripe' for Role in Mozambique Mission [KYODO]	3
Official Discusses SRV Premier's Visit Agenda [KYODO]	3
Official Rules Out Watanabe Overseas Trip [KYODO]	3
Court Decides To Detain Kanemaru 10 More Days [KYODO]	4
Cabinet Approval Rate Remains at 20.4 Percent [KYODO]	5
Mieno Says Economy in Severe Adjustment Phase [KYODO]	5
Panel Proposes Delaying Shorter Work Week [KYODO]	6
NEC Develops New Speech Recognition System [KYODO]	6

North Korea

Reports, Reaction on Treaty Withdrawal Continue	6
Flights Out of DPRK 'Cancelled' [Belgrade TANJUG]	6
UNSC Adoption of DPRK Paper Noted [KCNA]	7
Hanminjon Declaration on Withdrawal [KCNA]	7
VNS: South Supports Withdrawal [KCNA]	7
Group in Paris Sends Letters on DPRK Withdrawal	8
For IAEA's Blix [KCNA]	8
For UN Secretary General [KCNA]	8
For UNSC Head [KCNA]	8
Joint U.S.-ROK Military Exercises Denounced	9
Letter on Armistice Agreement [KCNA]	9
Plan To Leave Weapons Denounced [Pyongyang Radio]	9
Exercise 'Incompatible With Peace' [KCNA]	9
So Yun-sok at Rally on Team Spirit [Pyongyang Radio]	10
SKNDF Statement on Exercise [Pyongyang Radio]	12
KCNA Reports South Purchase of Submarines	13
Spokesman Discusses 'Comfort Women' Issue [KCNA]	13
Joint-Venture With Japan Operates in Wonsan [KCNA]	13
DPRK, PRC Sign Education Exchange Agreement 6 Mar [Pyongyang Radio]	14
Kim Il-song Receives Sihanouk Letter of Thanks [Pyongyang Radio]	14
Officials Comment on Army Mobilization Order [KCNA]	14
Kim Chong-il Thanks Metal Industry Ministry for Aid [KCNA]	15
Daily Urges Economic Construction Upsurge [Pyongyang Radio]	15
KCNA Reviews 17 Mar Pyongyang Press	17

South Korea

Foreign Reports, Reaction to DPRK Withdrawal Noted	18
U.S. Requests Meeting With DPRK Counselor [CHUNGANG ILBO 17 Mar]	18
PRC 'Likely' To Set DPRK-U.S. Meet [YONHAP]	18

'Official': DPRK Agrees to U.S. Talks [YONHAP]	19
U.S., DPRK Said To Hold Beijing Talks [Seoul TV]	19
DPRK-PRC Telecom Link Restored [YONHAP]	19
PRC 'Refused' Influence Request [Seoul TV]	19
Japan To Support UN Intervention [SEOUL SINMUN 17 Mar]	19
JSP Said to Cancel DPRK Trip [YONHAP]	19
Mongolia Regrets DPRK Withdrawal [YONHAP]	20
Envoy Comments on IAEA Plan [KYONGHYANG SINMUN 16 Mar]	20
ROK Reaction to DPRK Treaty Withdrawal	20
Considers Suspending Team Spirit-94 [HANGUK ILBO 17 Mar]	20
Minister: No 'Unusual' Military Moves [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Mar]	21
Official: No DPRK 'Military Preparations' [YONHAP]	21
NSP Head Opposes Military Sanctions [YONHAP]	21
Official on IAEA Disagreements [YONHAP]	22
U.S. Commerce DRAM Decision Pleases Government [YONHAP]	22
ROK, PRC To Establish Pollution Prevention Committee [YONHAP]	23
PRC's Commercial Goods Corporation Head Interviewed [KYONGHYANG SINMUN 9 Mar]	23
'Comfort Women' May Sue Japan [YONHAP]	24
Russia Fails To Pay Interest for 3d Straight Month [YONHAP]	24
Korean Businessmen To Visit Russia: Far East [THE KOREA HERALD 13 Mar]	24
Mitterrand, Swedish, SRV Prime Ministers To Visit [YONHAP]	25
ROK To Participate in Multilateral Security Talks [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Mar]	25
President Urges Civil Servant Anticorruption Drive [YONHAP]	25
Government Appoints New Foreign Ministry Officials [YONHAP]	26
Government To Lift Ban on Shortwave Radio Receivers [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Mar]	26
Broadcasting Corporation Names New President [YONHAP]	27
Finance Ministry Eases Foreign Exchange Restrictions [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Mar]	27
'Real-Name' Transaction Implementation Delayed [YONHAP]	27
Labor, Management Groups Confrontational on Wages [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Mar]	28
Jan-Feb Auto Exports Increase 138.3 Percent [THE KOREA HERALD 17 Mar]	28
Ministry Says Technology Exports Double in 1992 [YONHAP]	28
ROK To Crack Down on Rhino Horn Trading [THE KOREA TIMES 12 Mar]	28

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Press: Afghan-Trained 'Fighters' Combat 'Occupation'	
[Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST 15 Mar]	30
Taiwan Delegation Visits To Expand Market Ties [Taipei CNA]	30

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Draft Constitutional Amendment Bill Hailed [BERITA HARIAN 12 Mar]	31
---	----

Singapore

Business Invests in PRC 'Nontraditional' Areas [THE STRAITS TIMES 16 Mar]	31
Joint Exercise Conducted With Indian Navy [THE STRAITS TIMES 12 Mar]	32

Cambodia

Sihanouk Ready To Launch 'Crusade,' Save Country [AFP]	33
Sihanouk Warns of Khmer Rouge Battlefield Prowess [AFP]	33
VGNUFC Reports Sihanouk Interview With Magazine	34
Khmer Rouge Activities in Siem Reap Noted [SPK]	35
Liberal Democratic Khmer Farmers Party Head Interviewed [KAOH SANTEPHEAP 9 Mar]	35
Party Paper Hails Latest UNSC Cambodia Resolution [Phnom Penh Radio]	35
Paper Decrees Code of Conduct for Election Campaign [Phnom Penh Radio]	36

Paper Foresees Future Coalition Troubles	[KAOH SANTEPHEAP 12 Mar]	37
--	--------------------------	----

Indonesia

Suharto To Announce New Cabinet 17 Mar	[AFP]	37
Daily Welcomes Suharto's Reelection as President	[THE INDONESIA TIMES 12 Mar]	37
Governor Discusses Human Rights in East Timor	[SUARA PEMBUARAN 25 Feb]	38
Military To Close Special East Timor Command	[AFP]	39
Official Hopes for Better Relations With Australia	[ANTARA]	40
Editorial Views Nation's Economic Challenges	[THE JAKARTA POST 4 Mar]	41
Investment Board Lists Approved Projects	[THE JAKARTA POST 3 Mar]	41

Laos

Khamtai Siphandon Addresses Military Officers	[Vientiane Radio]	42
Khamphoui Keouboualapha Delegation Returns From SRV	[Vientiane Radio]	43
Somsavat Lengsavat Meets Australian, Mongolian, DPRK Envoys	[Vientiane Radio]	43
Sosavat Lengsavat Receives Foreign Envoys 11 Mar	[Vientiane Radio]	43
Diplomats Report Deputy Ministers Appointed	[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 12 Mar]	44
UNDP Sponsors Vientiane Cooperation Meeting	[KPL]	44
Minister Opens Ethnic Youth Music Festival	[Vientiane Radio]	45
Party, State Leaders Thank PRC Counterparts	[Vientiane Radio]	45
Foreign Leaders Offer Congratulations to Officials	[Vientiane Radio]	45

Thailand

Russia To Make Rice Loan Payment, Seeks New Supplies	[THE NATION 16 Mar]	45
Prasong, Christopher Discuss Rights, Child Labor	[Bangkok Radio]	46
Authorities Upgrade Security at Embassies	[THE SUNDAY POST 14 Mar]	46
North Korea Buys 100,000 Tons of Rice	[Bangkok Radio]	46
Firms Continue To Bring in Logs From Cambodia	[THE NATION 16 Mar]	46
200 Lao Soldiers Cross Border Seeking Tribesmen	[BANGKOK POST 13 Mar]	47
Lao Soldiers Reportedly Fire on Border Village	[MATICHON 15 Mar]	47
Governor, Chawalit Comment	[Bangkok Radio]	47
Meeting With Laos Not Affected	[Bangkok Radio]	48

Vietnam

UNTAC: Khmer Rouge Troops Responsible for Siem Reap	[VNA]	48
VNA Cites World Reaction to Siem Reap Incident	[VNA]	49
Sihanouk's Call for Vietnamese Departure Rejected	[AFP]	49
Do Muoi, Dao Duy Tung Visit Provinces	[Hanoi TV]	49
Continue Tour	[Hanoi TV]	51
Lao Government Delegation Concludes Visit	[VNA]	53
National Assembly Standing Committee Holds Meeting	[Hanoi Radio]	53
State Banks To Provide More Agricultural Loans	[VNA]	54
High-Yield Rice Research Yields Encouraging Results	[VNA]	54
Ground Station Ready To Receive CNN Feed	[Hanoi TV]	55
Court Sentences Swindlers in 'Major Case'	[VNA]	55
Vo Van Kiet Writes to Cinematographic Workers	[Hanoi Radio]	55

AUSTRALASIA

Fiji

Rabuka Offers To Drop National Unity Government Plan	[AFP]	56
--	-------	----

Niue

Parliament Elects Frank Lui Premier *[AFP]* 56

Papua New Guinea

Wingti Calls for Review of Republic Status *[Melbourne International]* 56

Western Samoa

Government Approves New Sales Tax *[AFP]* 57

Solomon Islands

Mamaloni: PNG's Wingti Breaks Bougainville Vow *[Melbourne International]* 57

Japan

No 'Majority' Support for Early G-7 Summit

OW1703041493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—French President Francois Mitterrand's proposal for an early summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized countries does not enjoy support from a majority of participants, Japan's Government spokesman said Wednesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono also said he was "surprised" and found it "regrettable" that Mitterrand apparently has the impression that Japan is reluctant to assist Russia. "I am certain that European countries are aware of how much effort we made to invite (Russian Deputy Prime Minister Boris) Fedorov to the meeting in Hong Kong" last weekend to plan for the G-7 summit, Kono said.

The invitation, aimed at signaling support for Yeltsin's reforms, was the first ever for a nonmember of the G-7. Japanese officials say.

Mitterrand, appearing at a joint news conference with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow on Tuesday, reiterated a call to hold an emergency G-7 summit to address aid to Russia.

In response, White House spokesman George Stephanopoulos said that the early summit proposal is "one of the less likely possibilities," and said a meeting of G-7 cabinet ministers is more likely.

Japan said Tuesday it favors holding a ministerial-level emergency G-7 meeting to offer support for Yeltsin's economic reforms.

Kono said Japan is in close contact with other summit members, and that he "hasn't heard that there is a majority view" in favor of an early summit of G-7 leaders. The G-7 comprises the U.S., Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy, and Canada.

Kono said he could not understand how the French president could offer to hold an emergency summit since it is Japan's turn to be host nation. Mitterrand said at the Moscow press conference that Japan's reluctance to hold an emergency summit is because Tokyo is taking a special stance, and said that the special meeting should be convened even if it is only attended by countries that support the call.

Japan has refused to offer economic aid to Russia because of a longstanding dispute over four islands off Hokkaido seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Kono said Mitterrand has a "mistaken" impression about Japan's willingness to support Russia, and said that Japan is concerned about organizing effective aid.

He said the government is considering a wide range of possibilities for early G-7 meetings to support Russia.

In a related development, Japan's Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada is expected to seek U.S. agreement on convening a cabinet-level G-7 meeting in talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Washington on Thursday. Kono left open the possibility that Owada might proceed to Europe after the U.S. visit for further consultations on aid for Russia.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters that Tokyo will become the site of a meeting of G-7 foreign ministers if the group agrees to hold emergency ministerial talks on aid to Russia.

Dismissing any link between such a meeting and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's poor health, Miyazawa maintained that Tokyo would be the natural choice because Tokyo is host to the July 7 to 9 economic summit.

Official: No Comment on Russian Rescheduling

OW1703110193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1021 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry [MOF] official Wednesday declined either to admit or deny that the Group of Seven (G-7) major economies have agreed to ease conditions for repayment of debts by Russia. The official, who asked not to be identified, simply said the content of the weekend meeting of G-7 "sherpas" in Hong Kong could not be disclosed.

The NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, a major Japanese business daily, quoting unnamed sources, reported in its Wednesday morning edition that the G-7 agreed on easing the conditions so that Russia will only have to pay back two-thirds of what it initially had to reimburse by the end of this year.

The official also said no schedule has been set for a possible ministerial G-7 meeting before the July Tokyo summit, adding it is unlikely the G-7 heads will meet before gathering in Tokyo as proposed by French President Francois Mitterrand. He cited technical difficulties in arranging a meeting at such a short notice, and questioned whether it would be "feasible" without assurances that it would have practical results.

The official also reiterated the ministry's opposition to revising the treasury law in order to expand the range of projects that could be funded by construction bonds. He repeated the need to maintain "fiscal discipline" in the face of the aging of Japan's population and fiscal policy should not be based merely on economic stimulation.

Ex-Im Bank To Extend \$100 Million to Russia

OW1703121593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—The Export-Import [Ex-Im] Bank of Japan will disburse a delayed low-interest loan of 100 million dollars to Russia as early as

the end of the month, an international finance source said Wednesday. The government bank pledged the loan in December 1990, but disbursement has been delayed due to turmoil in Russia and the resulting delay in a guarantee of repayment by Russia.

The source said the bank recently accepted a letter guaranteeing repayment, making it possible to disburse the soft loan to be used for purchases of medical and other goods.

Japan also pledged a 500 million dollar loan to Russia in October 1991 through the Export-Import Bank, and intends to speed up the process of disbursement on that loan as well, the source said.

Official Wants Target for Foreign Chip Share

*OW1703124493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A top Japanese electronics industry official voiced support Wednesday for Japan and the United States to again set a numerical target for the foreign share of Japan's semiconductor market. But Takashi Kitaoka, chairman of the Electronic Industries Association of Japan, did not refer to any specific figure.

Kitaoka was speaking at a news conference ahead of bilateral semiconductor trade talks in Hawaii that begin Wednesday on determining the foreign share at the end of 1992. Under an agreement reached in August 1991, Japan accepted the goal of having 20 percent of its market served by foreign chip makers by the end of 1992. The U.S. semiconductor industry has viewed the 20 percent figure as a commitment by Tokyo, but Japanese officials have said it is only a nonbinding goal.

For the July-September period of 1992, U.S. figures gave a market share of 15.9 percent, but Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry put it at 17.7 percent. The difference reflects the fact that U.S. figures do not include chips produced in Japan by foreign companies.

Data for the final quarter have yet to be released, but industry officials and analysts say it is certain that the foreign share will be less than 20 percent. The U.S. semiconductor industry has warned that it is ready to take action if Tokyo fails to comply by the 20 percent figure.

"The 20 percent figure is a target to aim for and not a commitment," Kitaoka said. "It is written definitely in the Japan-U.S. chip accord that it's a goal that should be achieved in a step-by-step manner."

Talks Open With U.S. on Construction Access

*OW1703132093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan and the United States began two days of talks Wednesday to review foreign access to Japan's construction market

with U.S. participants claiming some improprieties were made in a Tokyo Bay project. The talks aim to review progress made since a 1988 bilateral agreement on procedures to allow U.S. builders to bid on public works projects in Japan.

The U.S. side took issue on a trans-Tokyo Bay bridge project, insisting that U.S. builders could not take part in the design of the bridge and that the act violated the bilateral pact, according to Japanese officials. The two sides remained at odds over the issue as Japanese participants told their U.S. counterparts the procedures were appropriate under the pact, the officials said.

On other topics, U.S. participants proposed the set up of a panel of experts to discuss issues related to bidding procedures, they said.

Officials from the Japanese Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Construction, and Transport were among the participants. U.S. participants included officials from the departments of commerce and state.

Kono Views Concern Over PRC Military Spending

*OW1703105193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan played down concerns Wednesday over China's decision to sharply increase military expenditures.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said he believes China's military policy is a defense measure, rather than one of aggression. "If, for example, (military expenditures) are for aggressive purposes...then as a neighboring country, it would be natural for us to be very interested," Kono told a news conference.

Asked whether the spending increase would affect Japanese economic aid to China, Kono replied that Japan's post-cold war policy of linking economic aid to military expenditures is applied flexibly. He said the government does not plan to discuss the issue with China.

China unveiled plans Tuesday to increase military spending, despite a mounting deficit, by 14.8 percent over its 1992 budget to 42.5 billion yuan, or 7.4 billion dollars. The increase was nearly double the 6.8 percent overall rise in expenditures.

Some nations in the region fear that China is seeking to play a larger military role as the U.S. reduces its presence in the area. Reports that Beijing is considering acquiring an aircraft carrier for use to enforce control over the disputed Spratly islands in the South China Sea fueled worries over China's long-term military goals.

The U.S. has expressed concern that China is exporting advanced weapons to some Third World countries despite a pledge to help stem proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. China has denied it is failing to meet its commitments.

In the wake of the 1991 Persian Gulf war, Japan declared it would award aid to a nation based on its arms trade and military spending. Tokyo is Beijing's largest aid donor.

In contrast to the government spokesman's comments, a senior Foreign Ministry official expressed concern over China's rising military budget.

Speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, he said that considering the rapid economic growth of the Asian region in the post-cold war era, it is disappointing to see extra funds channeled into the military rather than there being a "peace dividend."

The official warned the development could trigger a vicious circle in which Asian countries would "strangle themselves" in a contest of military might.

Mission Planned To Inspect PRC Oil Field

OW1703125793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan will send a fact-finding mission to China's promising inland oil field next month, government officials said Wednesday. The mission will be organized by Japan's semigovernmental oil company, Japan National Oil Corporation, and five or six private Japanese oil companies, according to officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

The mission will visit the Tarim Basin in China's northwest, one of the 12 oil fields China opened to foreign investment last February, they said. The Tarim Basin is one of the world's biggest undeveloped oil fields in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region with deposits estimated at least at 74 billion barrels.

Conditions 'Ripe' for Role in Mozambique Mission

OW1703094493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0928 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Conditions are ripe for Japan to take part in United Nations peacekeeping operations in Mozambique this year, a senior Foreign Ministry official reported to chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono on Wednesday.

Masaki Konishi, councillor at the Foreign Ministry's U.N. Bureau, made the report in briefing Kono at the prime minister's official residence on the outcome of a government mission to the southern African country to study the prospects of Japan joining peacekeepers there. The eight-member mission was in Mozambique from March 4 through Tuesday. They also visited neighboring Zimbabwe, where many Mozambican refugees fled in the civil war.

Konishi reportedly told Kono that all the conditions for Japan joining U.N. peacekeeping efforts abroad have

been met. Conditions include a declared ceasefire and assurances that Japanese personnel will not be drawn into combat.

Konishi also was quoted as saying the planned deployment of U.N. peacekeepers in Mozambique is about five months behind the schedule.

The mission expects to file an official report to the government on Monday, said Haruhiko Shibuya, director general of the Foreign Ministry's United Nations Bureau, who also was present at the meeting between Konishi and Kono.

Official Discusses SRV Premier's Visit Agenda

OW1703112193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1108 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit to Japan next week will prompt more active dialogue between Tokyo and Hanoi on regional and international political issues, a senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official predicted Wednesday.

The official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, said the agenda for talks between Kiet and Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will take in Japanese economic assistance, trade and investment, intellectual exchanges, and political dialogue. He said cooperation with Vietnam is a vital component of Japan's diplomatic aim of facilitating the reconstruction of the entire Indochina region, including Cambodia and Laos, in the wake of decades of warfare.

The official stressed that while Vietnam's land mass may not be so huge, it is destined to become a "Southeast Asian power" with "vast potential."

Kiet, who will be the first Vietnamese premier to visit Japan since Tokyo and Hanoi set up diplomatic ties in 1973, will be in Japan March 24-28 and is scheduled to hold talks with Miyazawa on March 25. Government sources said on Tuesday that Miyazawa will pledge to Kiet a grant of 680 million yen to help finance purchases of medical equipment and forestry machinery.

Last November, Japan partially resumed official loans to Hanoi, extending a 45 billion yen commodity loan. But no project loans have been extended since Tokyo suspended economic aid in 1979 after Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia.

Official Rules Out Watanabe Overseas Trip

OW1703111893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1058 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, recovering from illness, will not travel abroad like his predecessors during the "Golden Week" string of holidays from late April through early May, a senior Foreign Ministry source said Wednesday. The source

also said that Watanabe is delegating many responsibilities to senior bureaucrats, while concentrating on getting prepared for the July 7-9 summit in Tokyo of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations.

On Monday, Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada took the unusual step of making a statement that Watanabe is in good enough health to function capably as Japan's top diplomatic official. Owada, reacting to media speculation to the contrary, told reporters that Watanabe's health condition is "absolutely not considered an impediment to Japanese diplomacy."

He said Watanabe is "steadily regaining his strength" after falling ill during a parliamentary debate on February 15, a day after returning from a visit to the United States. He was hospitalized with a severe cold and exhaustion from overwork.

Watanabe, 59 also functions as deputy prime minister. He has been commuting to work from hospital since officially resuming duties this month. His recent meetings with foreign dignitaries have been brief—20 minutes allotted to Swedish Foreign Minister Margaretha Uggla and just a few minutes more spared for a group of Central American foreign ministers.

Court Decides To Detain Kanemaru 10 More Days

OW1703122293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0947 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—The Tokyo District Court decided Wednesday to keep ex-political heavyweight Shin Kanemaru and his former aide Masahisa Haibara in detention for another 10 days until March 27.

Kanemaru, 78, former vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and Haibara, 49, his former chief secretary, were arrested March 6 and indicted last Saturday for allegedly evading 118 million in income tax in 1987.

The court made the decision on a request from the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office, which sources said is preparing a supplementary indictment of the two based on further evidence.

Investigators have gone to Kanemaru's home prefecture of Yamanashi to investigate the flow of funds from a 566-company Construction Industry Association. The investigators have concluded that part of the money used to avoid taxes came in the form of donations from construction interests in the prefecture.

Sources said Kanemaru's own support group in the prefecture, the Kenshinkai, was virtually the same as the industry association. Investigators are trying to trace a series of movements of funds between Kanemaru, the support group, and the industry association.

They reportedly have learned that a former high-ranking official of the group brought 100 million yen to Kanemaru's Tokyo office in late February immediately before the 1990 general election and handed it to Kanemaru, but the money was returned shortly after.

Sources said investigators also have evidence that the association also made up a shortfall of about 50 million yen in campaign funds for the election, and that the sum was later repaid into the association's reserves.

The investigators are hearing evidence from former high-ranking members of the association as well as several construction industry representatives in Yamanashi.

They are also combing the association's account books covering the three financial years 1986, 1989, and 1990 at its headquarters in Kofu. The investigators said wrappers from a credit association and a local branch of a city bank were among the cash used as hidden funds allocated for the purchase of discount "warishin" debentures issued by the Nippon Credit Bank.

The investigators say they already know that the 200 million yen for which prosecutors indicted Kanemaru for tax avoidance in 1987 came as donations from construction interests. Kanemaru has already admitted this, but is refusing to divulge the names of the donors, according to the sources.

The investigators are focusing on the locating of hidden funds and the route by which the funds were received.

Sources said that the investigators are working on the assumption that, as in previous cases involving politicians, Kanemaru may argue that he merely failed temporarily to declare political funds which are normally exempt from tax. They are trying to trace the process and extent to which he may have collected funds for political purposes but diverted the money for his own personal purposes and find out whether they can prove it can be regarded as his own income, sources said.

In addition, they said, prosecutors must establish if funds Kanemaru had before a 1987 statute of limitations applies were not used as a basis for tax avoidance.

Kanemaru's support group Kenshinkai has branches at eight of the association's offices around Yamanashi Prefecture. Investigators simultaneously raided the Kofu headquarters of the construction company Ijiri Kogyo to determine whether the firm used its close personal links with Kanemaru to control the allocation of public works contracts.

Investigators said there is no record of funds, in addition to political donations during election campaigns, known to have flowed directly to Kanemaru via the Kenshinkai and the association. The association collected annual donations ranging between 20,000 and 50,000 yen based on its ranking of member companies.

But investigators learned Wednesday that in addition to the donations, when a company won a public works

contract, it was levied an additional fee equivalent to 0.45 percent of the contract price.

The head of one construction company in Kofu said his firm often received an order for a construction project, but would then have to pay out several million yen. "If we didn't pay up, we feared we wouldn't get the next contract," he said.

The nonprofit association's annual budget is around 150 million yen, although much of this is unaccounted for.

Cabinet Approval Rate Remains at 20.4 Percent

*OW1703082093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0759 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Public support for the cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa remained low at 20.4 percent, a KYODO News Service survey showed on Wednesday. The figure was up 4.3 percentage points from a similar poll taken in December but was far lower than in the previous surveys that showed the support rate for the Miyazawa cabinet hovering around the 30 percent mark.

The disapproval rating of the Miyazawa administration came to 72.7 percent. December's disapproval rate for the cabinet was the second highest ever at 76.9 percent.

The continued sluggishness in support reflects public distrust of the cabinet in its handling of the economic slump and uncertainty over political reform efforts. The Miyazawa cabinet was also hurt by the arrest of former political power broker Shin Kanemaru on suspected tax evasion.

The survey was conducted last Saturday and Sunday on 3,000 randomly selected voters nationwide, of which 63.3 percent responded. Of the respondents, 48.7 percent were men and 51.3 percent were women.

Among those who disapproved of the cabinet, 35.7 percent said the premier lacks the ability to lead and 26.9 percent said they do not expect the cabinet to implement political reforms.

Of those who voiced support for the Miyazawa administration, 51.6 percent said they did so because of the absence of suitable alternatives, while 20.9 percent said they did because the cabinet is from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

The support rate for the LDP stood at 36.5 percent, falling below the 40 percent level for the first time in three years and nine months since the short-lived cabinet of Prime Minister Sosuke Uno.

Meanwhile, the fledgling Japan New Party (JNP) won approval from 11.2 percent of the respondents, up 5.4 percentage points from the December survey. Headed by former Kumamoto Governor Morihiro Hosokawa, the JNP set up shop last May and won four seats in the July House of Councillors election.

Japan's largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, was supported by 15.1 percent, Komeito by 3.5 percent, the Japanese Communist Party by 2.6 percent and the Democratic Socialist Party by 2.1 percent of respondents. Those refusing to support any political party made up 22.8 percent, compared with the previous survey's 26.4 percent.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said the cabinet takes the result of the KYODO survey "humbly." The top government spokesman said that the cabinet will seriously attempt to meet the public's expectations of politics.

Mieno Says Economy in Severe Adjustment Phase

*OW1703082793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0803 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday the Japanese economy is still undergoing a "severe adjustment" and the piling up of inventories reflects the weakness of the final demand. However, Mieno told a regular press conference that some signs of recovery in fiscal 1993, which begins April 1, can be observed.

Mieno made the remarks in reference to the October-December gross national product data, released by the government last week, which showed the total of value of goods and service produced in the quarter inched up a real 0.1 percent from the preceding quarter, with the help of external demand that offset the lackluster domestic demand.

The governor said according to the central bank's quarterly "tankan" economic survey, some signals of recovery of business conditions are appearing. But he acknowledged the severe situation is likely to continue for the time being.

Nonetheless, Mieno said the central bank will keep closely watching effects of past interest rate reductions as well as of the government's pump-priming package, whose effects should begin to be felt in the new fiscal year.

Turning to his recent attendance at a regular meeting of the Swiss-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS), Mieno said his impression of the conference was that the world economy is still struggling for recovery. He said he felt a clear contrast between the recovery of the U.S. economy, with improvements of structural problems, and the sluggish situation in Europe, where conditions seem even more difficult when combined with instabilities on the political scene.

Mieno said he had an impression he was able to obtain understanding of the recent Japanese economic policy by other participants of the BIS meeting.

He said Japan's mounting trade surplus may decrease when the nation's domestic demand regains energy, but also predicted "a considerable amount" of surplus will nevertheless remain, largely due to the basic structure of

Japanese savings and investments. Mieno called for further deregulation to "vigorously" open up Japan's market for imports.

Referring to discount bank debentures, Mieno said that there are reasons for certain debt instruments to require no registry of holders, such as the need to increase their liquidity, and that should not be confused with problems related with taxes. Former political kingpin Shin Kanemaru was arrested this month on alleged evasion of taxes on income from investments in discount bank debentures.

On reports that agricultural cooperative unions have come closer to accepting the bailout package of the financially troubled Nippon Housing Loan Co., Mieno said he does not have any information yet on that, but would welcome such a development if it is true. The cooperatives had expressed opposition to the package, which calls on creditor financial institutions to lower lending rates, saying they lacked the capability of accepting such scheme.

Panel Proposes Delaying Shorter Work Week

OW1703142493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A government panel on Wednesday recommended a one-year postponement of a proposed reduction in work hours at small- and medium-scale companies, putting a brake on a recent trend toward a less workaholic society. The Central Labor Standards Council submitted its recommendations to Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami, calling for putting off enforcement until the end of March 1994 of a law mandating a 44-hour work week at smaller firms.

Currently, small enterprises enjoy a special exception allowing a 46-hour workweek, while bigger companies are obliged to steadily pare down working hours in line with the government's goal of creating a "lifestyle super-power" with less work and more leisure time.

Since April 1991, a 44-hour workweek system has been in force, and the government is submitting to the current Diet session a bill to amend the Labor Standards Law to cut the official workweek further to 40 hours starting in April 1994.

The advisory council for the labor minister, headed by Sophia University Prof. Tadashi Hanami, originally agreed that the special treatment for smaller enterprises be scrapped at the end of March this year, having them abide by the same standards as larger companies. But apparently in view of the nation's current economic slump, which is threatening survival of many smaller firms, the panel has backed down from its earlier pledge with a backing from the ministry.

Protesting against the recommendations, some panel members, who are representatives from trade unions, boycotted the Wednesday council meeting. Ministry sources said the eight million-strong Japan Trade Union

Confederation, or Rengo, intends to criticize the government for its aboutface on the matter.

Seeking a radical shift to a more leisurely society, Rengo has targeted a 1,800-hour work year by fiscal 1995 ending March 1996, clashing with demands from employers who have insisted on a more step-by-step approach with a goal of 1,950 hours for the time being. Japanese workers spent an average of 1,972 hours at work in 1992, 20 to 450 hours longer than their counterparts in the United States, Britain, France, and the western part of Germany.

In an apparent bid to alleviate union frustrations, however, the panel has worked out some reviews on the current special system, proposing applying it only to companies with 100 or fewer employees. At present, companies with more than 100 employees in some industries also qualify for the special treatment.

This would help substantially slash the number of workers covered by the system to 19.78 million, or 45.3 percent of the nation's total workforce, from the current 21.65 million, or 49.6 percent.

NEC Develops New Speech Recognition System

OW1703063893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0612 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—NEC Corp. said Wednesday it has developed a new speech recognition system which can recognize about 1000 words of spoken Japanese in real time. The company said the device is based on its highly accurate demisyllable technique which breaks down spoken words and immediately analyzes speech patterns.

In tests, a high recognition rate for 1,000 isolated words was achieved for speakers using adapters and talking at normal speed, the company said.

NEC said the device has wide application possibilities, such as for over-the-counter ticket sales and at tourist information terminals in railway stations and airports. The company said it will market a new product using the device on the Japanese market within this year.

North Korea

Reports, Reaction on Treaty Withdrawal Continue

Flights Out of DPRK 'Cancelled'

LD1703033893 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1556 GMT 16 Mar 93

[“Pool” item]

[Text] Beijing, March 16 (TANJUG)—North Korea seems to have decided to close its borders, after declaring a “state of semi-war” and pulling out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Sources in Beijing say the

weekly Beijing-Pyongyang train has been cancelled this Thursday as well as all flights to and from the North Korean [as received].

North Korea explained its decision to declare a state of semi-war with the holding of joint U.S.-North Korean [as received] military exercises. The exercise has been organized annually since the U.S. military bases were set up some 40 years ago.

The North Korean Government decided to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty several days ago and not to inspections of its facilities, which the West believes might be producing nuclear weapons. [sentence as received]

All this has not only contributed to mounting tension in foreign relations, but has also aggravated the situation in North Korea where Kim Il-song is to step down in favour of his son Kim Chong-il. It is uncertain whether the change of power will be peaceful.

Sources in Beijing say foreign embassies in North Korea have been notified in advance that their staff should not leave Pyongyang.

UNSC Adoption of DPRK Paper Noted

*SK1703053093 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0439 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The March 12 statement of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation treaty as a measure to defend the national sovereignty and supreme interests of the country was distributed as official document S/25407 of the United Nations Security Council.

Hanminjon Declaration on Withdrawal

*SK1703071493 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0508 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) issued a declaration on the situation in Seoul on March 15 supporting the statement of the DPRK Government which declared the withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as a measure to defend the national sovereignty and supreme interests of the country.

"At this grave juncture when the Korean nation's destiny and future of the socialism in the North are at stake, Pyongyang announced the thunderbolt-like declaration to the world," the declaration says, adding: "It is an exercise of the dignified sovereignty and righteous self-defensive measure only the true independent state like North Korea could take."

The declaration goes on:

"The North's measure is not only an atomic bomb that dealt a heavy blow to the United States and other

imperialist reactionaries who became haughty to the extremes with the collapse of socialism in East European countries, but also a stirring, historic declaration that gave confidence in sure victory to our nation and the world's oppressed people seeking independence.

"Having the people-centered socialist power in the North as the bulwark of their conviction and hope, we South Korean people are unyieldingly waging struggles for independence, democracy and reunification without slightest vacillation despite the turmoil all over the world."

The declaration calls upon all the people to prevent the nation from falling victim to great powers, joining hands with the brethren in the North determinedly to defend the nation and courageously rising in the anti-war movement to defend peace of the country in order to save the fatherland and the nation from the present grave situation created by the conspiracy of the South Korean authorities and the imperialist reactionary forces.

It says the United States must give up its policy of nuclear threat and blackmail against the North of Korea and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay before suffering a greater defeat, and Japan and the flunkeyist traitors of South Korea must act with discretion according to their own judgment.

Cho Il-min, chief of the Hanminjon mission in Pyongyang, met with home and foreign reporters here Tuesday upon the publication of the declaration on the situation.

"Our declaration on the situation represents the unshakable will of the 40 million South Korean people to achieve peace on the Korean peninsula through their struggle in unity with the brethren in the North," he said.

VNS: South Supports Withdrawal

*SK1603112393 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1048 GMT 16 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—The statement of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] has evoked a storm of response from the South Korean people, according to radio Voice of National Salvation [VNS] from Seoul.

A reporter Kim in Seoul said that the DPRK's declaration of its withdrawal from the NPT was an uncompromising countermeasure against an unreasonable pressure and that through the measure the North demonstrated the might of dignified independent state once again to the international community.

Choe Yong-chin, a student of Seoul National University, said that he was once again moved by the independent politics and astonishing grit of the North and he felt the pride and honour of being a member of the nation led by a great leader.

A member of a dissident organisation Yun said the statement of the government of the North was a historic

event which eloquently declared that no one could dare provoke the dignity and interests of our nation. "Disgraceful, indeed, is the mean flunkeyist sight of the authorities of the South who are running about to do harm to fellow countrymen as stooges of outside forces," he said.

Kang In-chol, a company clerk in Songnam, said that he would like to express thanks for the independent measure of the North which dealt a hard blow to the United States and its followers and gave strength and courage to the fellow countrymen. "The United States must give up its anachronistic nuclear blackmail strategy, withdraw nuclear weapons from this land unconditionally and immediately and stop the criminal 'Team Spirit' joint military exercises at once," he urged.

Group in Paris Sends Letters on DPRK Withdrawal

For IAEA's Blix

*SK1703111493 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1029 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—An extraordinary meeting of the executive committee of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea which was held in Paris on March 14 adopted a protest message to Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"The decision of the IAEA to force a 'special inspection' of military sites in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a wanton infringement upon the sovereignty of the DPRK, which runs diametrically counter to the basic mission of the IAEA and to the principle of impartiality of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty," the protest message says, adding:

"The one-sided stand of the IAEA is all the more grave because it favors the 'policy of strength' of the United States which has introduced nuclear weapons into South Korea and is threatening the DPRK, a non-nuclear state, with repeated nuclear war exercises in wanton violation of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty."

The message stresses:

"The extraordinary meeting of the executive committee of the international liaison committee considers that the IAEA should not dance to the tune of others in the moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK, but strictly observe the principle of neutrality and impartiality in the solution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula in keeping with its noble basic mission of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

"We expect that you will pay particular attention to this protest message and immediately withdraw the 'resolution on special inspection' of the DPRK and take necessary measures to resume the constructive dialogue with the DPRK."

For UN Secretary General

*SK1703104993 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1012 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—A letter to the U.N. Secretary General was adopted at the extraordinary meeting of the executive committee of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea held in Paris on March 14.

The letter said:

A hair-trigger situation has been created on the Korean peninsula in which a war may break out any moment due to the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises, a nuclear war game targeted against the DPRK, started by the United States and South Korean authorities.

The adoption of a one-sided "resolution" to force a "special inspection" of military sites of the DPRK at a meeting of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency was an act flagrantly violating the sovereignty of the DPRK in the interest of the super power which is pursuing a hostile policy toward the DPRK.

It is entirely just that the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army declared a state of semi-war to the whole country, all the people and the entire army as a self-defensive measure to face this situation and the DPRK Government took the important measure of withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

We demand that all moves to provoke a war against the DPRK and all the attempts to force an arbitrary "special inspection" upon the DPRK, challenging the demand of the times and human conscience, be stopped unconditionally and immediately.

We express the hope that Mr. Secretary General, the spokesman of the United Nations whose mission it is to guarantee world peace and security and the sovereignty and independent development of the independent states, would pay due attention to the grave situation in this region and take positive measures for peace on the Korean peninsula and for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

For UNSC Head

*SK1703115693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1111 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The extraordinary meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea held in Paris on March 14 adopted a letter to the president of the United Nations Security Council [UNSC].

It noted that the "resolution on special inspection" adopted at the February meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency meant a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and security of the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea and a hostile act favoring the "policy of strength" of a member state hostile to the DPRK.

It continued:

It is natural that, in face of such situation, the DPRK proclaimed a state of semi-war to the whole country, the entire people and the whole Army as a self-defensive measure and declared that it was withdrawing unavoidably from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to defend the sovereignty of the country.

The International Liaison Committee strongly demands that the International Atomic Energy Agency immediately cancel the arbitrary and one-sided resolution on 'special inspection' of the DPRK which was passed on the basis of the "intelligence information" faked up by a third country for its political and military purposes.

We express the hope that you, who are devoting precious efforts to the noble work to ensure the peace and security of the world and the dignity and rights of humanity, will take an appropriate measure to save the grave situation created on the Korean peninsula by the brigandish demand for a "special inspection" of the DPRK.

Joint U.S.-ROK Military Exercises Denounced

Letter on Armistice Agreement

*SK1703110693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1059 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—A letter of protest to Bill Clinton, president of the United States of America, was adopted at the extraordinary meeting of the executive committee of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea held in Paris on March 14.

Noting that the United States and the South Korean authorities have led the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of war by staging the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, the letter of protest said, and went on:

If a war broke out on the Korean peninsula, the war would not be confined to the Korean peninsula but would inevitably spread into a horrible nuclear war, and then the people of the United States themselves would not be safe and the whole world would suffer irretrievable disasters.

The United States will get nothing by keeping the acute confrontation on the Korean peninsula as it is now. If the United States really wants peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, it must stop at once all forms of military manoeuvres including the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises it is staging with the South Korean authorities and immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

The United States, the country directly responsible for the Korean problem, must replace the Korean Armistice

Agreement of 1953 with a peace agreement to create conditions for a durable peace on the Korean peninsula and must not instigate the South Korean authorities to confrontation and division.

This fully conforms with the trend of the times and the interests of the U.S. people as well as the peaceloving people of the world.

The International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea expressed the hope that the president of the United States of America would ponder over the above-mentioned question and make an affirmative decision without delay.

Plan To Leave Weapons Denounced

*SK1703052293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0410 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] According to a radio report from Seoul, the U.S. imperialists are maneuvering to keep an enormous amount of war equipment, which they mobilized in the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, in South Korea even after this military exercise ends, instead of withdrawing it.

Among the war equipment the U.S. imperialists intend to leave in South Korea are F-117 stealth planes, military aircraft they used during the Persian Gulf War.

This is, in essence, a criminal step intended to prolong indefinitely the Team Spirit joint military exercise, a test nuclear war exercise and a preliminary war aimed at northward aggression. This is an intolerable troop reinforcement intended to further aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula.

All facts show how the U.S. imperialists and South Korean antinational elements are recklessly running amok to nullify the North-South agreement, which pledged nonaggression, and the joint denuclearization declaration, and to block the peaceful reunification of our nation.

Such a criminal act by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges threatening peace on the Korean peninsula and in the rest of the world cannot avoid greater protests and denunciation by the peaceloving people of the world.

Exercise 'Incompatible With Peace'

*SK1703104793 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1035 GMT 17 Mar 93*

["Large-scale Military Exercises Are Incompatible With Peace"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The "Team Spirit" joint military exercises are incompatible with peace of the Korean peninsula at all, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

The situation of the peninsula has become extremely strained due to the adventurous "Team Spirit 93" of the

U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, the author of the article says, and continues:

The Korean people do not want a war but want peace. They are struggling to move up the day when the country is reunified and all the people live a happy life in the reunified territory.

But, the U.S. imperialists have resumed the once-suspended "Team Spirit" under the pretext of the fictitious "nuclear arms development" by the DPRK, bringing the situation of the peninsula which was heading for detente and peace to confrontation and war.

How can the northern half of Korea be in peace when a frantic war rehearsal is under way in the South of the same land?

The order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army declaring a semi-war state to the whole country, people and Army to cope with the strained situation created on the Korean peninsula is a self-defensive military measure to resolutely smash the aggressive moves of the enemies and defend the security of the people and peace of the country.

The United States must clearly see the situation and act with discretion. The Korean people do not want a war. But they never allow the imperialist aggressors to encroach on the country's sovereignty and the nation's dignity.

Those who like playing with fire are destined to get themselves burnt.

The United States must give up the aggressive design on Korea, stop the "Team Spirit" and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

So Yun-sok at Rally on Team Spirit

*SK1403065693 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1243 GMT 10 Mar 93*

[Report on a speech by So Yun-sok, member of the Workers Party of Korea, WPK, Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial WPK Committee, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee]

[Excerpts] A mass rally of South Pyongan Province took place on the afternoon of 10 March at a plaza in Pyongsong to implement the Korean People's Army [KPA] supreme commander's order. The portrait of the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song and that of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were placed at the site of the rally. Slogan boards that read "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long live the honorable Workers Party of Korea [WPK]!" were also placed there. Other slogan boards that read "Let us thoroughly implement the respected and beloved supreme commander's order!", "Let us overthrow the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the Korean people's archenemy!", "Let us resolutely crush the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise by the U.S. imperialists and

South Korean puppet clique!", and "Let us achieve the cause of the fatherland's reunification without fail with the entire nation's united strength!" were placed in various locations. [passage omitted]

The rally was attended by Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Kim Mansong, chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee; responsible officials of regional party, state, administrative, and economic institutions; responsible officials of labor organizations; and KPA generals, along with approximately 50,000 workers, youth and students, and People's Army soldiers in the province.

The rally started with the chorus of the song "Let us uphold our supreme commander with arms." First, Comrade So Yun-sok delivered a speech at the rally.

[Begin So Yun-sok recording] Comrades: The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets are kicking up adventurous military exercise commotions. As a result, a very dangerous situation in which a nuclear war may break out at any moment is promoted on the Korean peninsula. In response to this situation, the supreme commander comrade of our revolutionary armed forces declared a semi-state of war in the entire territory of the Republic and gave an order that all the units of the KPA and the Korean People's Security Forces and all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards shall achieve a complete combat mobilization posture.

The respected and beloved supreme commander comrade's order is a very just self-defensive measure to defend, like an impregnable fortress, our socialist fatherland and revolutionary accomplishments from the military provocation maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and deter the aggressors' reckless game of fire in a timely manner. It is also an expression of the firm will and revolutionary position of our people and People's Army soldiers to wipe out the enemy at a blow if they dare ignite a fuse to war in this land.

I firmly believe that the order of KPA Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, a great revolutionary genius and ever-victorious iron-willed commander, is the most just measure for national salvation to prevent the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and defend security in Asia and the world. I express my firm resolve to thoroughly implement this order with all the participants in the mass rally.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets started the Team Spirit joint military exercise, after all, despite the unanimous protest and denunciation of all the Korean people and peace-loving people all over the world. This is an unforgivable challenge to our Republic and to our people, who are making every effort for peace in the country and for its peaceful reunification. This is

also an intolerable crime that will again lead the situation on the Korean peninsula, which had been moving toward detente and peace, to the brink of war.

As you all know, the government of our Republic has repeatedly and strongly demanded that the plan for this criminal war exercise be canceled. The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets started the aggressive war exercise despite our repeated demands and advice. This has frustrated the implementation of the North-South agreement; brought North-South relations to the original state of confrontation, which prevailed before the adoption of the agreement; and intensified the situation to the utmost.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets started the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise at a time when they were deliberately aggravating the situation under the pretext of the nuclear issue, while talking about special inspections or punitive measures. This is a nuclear war exercise more grave than any previous exercise. This is truly an exercise for nuclear attack designed to launch a pre-emptive nuclear strike at the northern half of our Republic and fulfill their ambition for aggression.

The U.S. imperialists and their running dogs have brought a new generation of fighters loaded with nuclear weapons, warships, and various devices for nuclear strike on a large scale into the Korean peninsula and the waters in its vicinity and mobilized approximately 20 units of forces of aggression, including quick reaction and deployment forces, from U.S. bases on the U.S. mainland and those in Guam, Hawaii, Japan, and other areas in the Asian-Pacific region. They are frantically conducting the war exercise against us with these forces.

Today, when the North and South, on the Korean peninsula, have adopted and effectuated the agreement on reconciliation and nonaggression and the joint denuclearization declaration under the overall situation which is moving toward detente and peace, the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs again started the nuclear war exercise commotions, which they did not conduct last year, under the pretext of our nonexistent nuclear issue. This is an unjustifiable military provocation. [end recording]

He also said that if the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs provoke a new war on this land, our people and People's Army will unanimously rise up to deal a crushing blow to the aggressors and again demonstrate the dignity and honor of the heroic Korea. He went on to say:

[Begin So Yun-sok recording] All the party members and workers in the province must be more strongly united around the great leader and the dear comrade leader and assume a complete combat mobilization posture to crush the new war provocation maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs at a blow.

Holding a hammer and a sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other hand our people should work and live in a taut and militant manner with the same spirit and mettle that

they displayed in the arduous days of the war when they produced and supplied wartime provisions and explosives in defiance of falling shells and when they defended the outposts of the fatherland by smashing the enemies with the brave soldiers of the People's Army.

All party members and the working people in the province should vigorously wage the struggle to increase production of coal and electricity, the cardinal task of the socialist construction this year, and, thus, should supply more coal and electricity to various sectors of the national economy. At the same time, they should rapidly increase the production of people consumer goods by operating all light industry plants and local industry plants at full capacity.

All party members and the working people in the province, by concentrating all of their efforts on farm preparations and by thoroughly implementing the demands of the chuche farm method, should effect a new upsurge in agricultural production this year, which will significantly mark the 40th anniversary of the victory of the war. Then, they should clearly show to the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets the invincibility of our socialism.

All party members, the working people, members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia, and members of the Red Youth Guards in the province should be deeply aware that the confrontation with the enemies is a confrontation of force and that success in their fight lies in their political and ideological preparations and material and technological preparations. And they should also more vigorously accelerate production and construction with firm faith in victory and should have a high degree of military and technological level. Thus, they should more reliably defend the security of the party, the leader, the fatherland, and the people by following the model displayed by hero Kim Chin of the 1930s, hero Yi Su-pok of the 1950s, and heroes Kim Kwang-chol and Han Yong-chol of the 1990s.

Our socialist fatherland is synonymous with the great leader and the dear comrade leader, and the great leader and the dear comrade leader are precisely our socialist fatherland. It is the popular masses-centered socialist system of our own style and our socialist fatherland which cannot be divested of by any aggressors. If the enemies provoke our socialist fatherland, our people and officers and men of our People's Army will become the rifles and shells for annihilating the enemies to safeguard and defend with their lives the great leader and the dear comrade leader. They will firmly defend our precious socialist system.

As long as there are our people and officers and men of our People's Army who are upholding and following to the end the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander of the People's Army, and firmly defending the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style, our party's cause—our socialist cause—will be ever-victorious and invincible.

Our people who are advancing, firmly uniting behind the great leader and the dear comrade leader, will be victorious in the future, too, without fail.

Let all of us uphold the party's and the leader's leadership with loyalty and more vigorously struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and for the complete victory of the socialist cause. [slogans, applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

SKNDF Statement on Exercise

*SK1403110993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[Statement by Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front on 11 March—read by announcer]

[Text] Defying the strong opposition and rejection of our masses, the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise was launched into a full-scale practical mobilization stage on 9 March, with this as the day of commencement of operation.

According to the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise plan, new-type of fighters, military ships and various nuclear strike means have been mobilized from the U.S. mainland and overseas bases on the Korean peninsula and its surrounding seas, and large-scale landing operations and paratroopers' training are being staged in succession each day by simulating a strike deep into the North.

Such grave acts committed by the U.S. aggressors and the incumbent ruling group are a grave challenge to peace on the Korean peninsula and to our people's aspirations to peaceful reunification.

Even up to some time ago, with adoption and effectuation of the agreement between the North and the South with reconciliation and nonaggression as its key content, an atmosphere favorable to national reconciliation was created and our masses looked forward to peaceful reunification in the 1990's by cherishing the rising hope and expectations.

The U.S. aggressors and the incumbent ruling group, however, sharply challenged our people's will and the trend of the time by finally resuming the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise.

The United States expanded the Team Spirit war exercise in a phased manner in colonial South Korea with the purpose of realizing its ambition for world domination by taking this land as a bridgehead. This is itself a crime infringing on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Our South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] seriously regards the current Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise as the most dangerous test nuclear war exercise far surpassing previous war exercises in its scale and character.

The United States mobilized the Independence, extra-large carrier based in Yokosuka, Japan; B-1B bombers; and even ultramodern nuclear arms including F-117A stealth fighter-bomber which claimed to have shown superior functions during the Persian Gulf war, in the current Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise.

This is a grave situation unprecedented in the history of Team Spirit war exercises. No one can dare deny the fact that such ultramodern nuclear arms capable of staging a complete war will not give rise to another Persian Gulf war on the Korean peninsula.

An acute touch-and-go situation in which a war may break out at any moment has been created on the Korean peninsula. What one should not overlook is the fact that the United States is instigating and forcing the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to conduct illegal special inspections of military facilities in the North which have nothing to do with the nuclear issue. Thus, it intensified a political offensive to isolate and suffocate the North. Timed to coincide with this, the United States is staging a nuclear war exercise by mobilizing tremendous quantities of nuclear equipment.

This clearly illustrates that the current Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise has reached an extremely dangerous and adventurous stage and is an aggressive nuclear war exercise intended for a surprise preemptive strike on the North.

The SKNDF Central Committee, branding the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise waged by the U.S. aggressors and the incumbent ruling group as an intolerable crime intended to strangle [kyosal] peace on the Korean peninsula and to finally ignite the flames of a nuclear war, sternly denounces and condemns the exercise.

The ongoing Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise clearly shows that the United States, although it is giving lip service to easing tension and peace on the Korean peninsula, is the ringleader who is in actuality pursuing aggravation of tension and war. Moreover, the incumbent authorities, who are advocating civilian politics, accepted the current nuclear war exercise as an established fact. For this, they cannot avoid the denunciation of also being a group of nation sellers and splittists who only seek confrontation and perpetuation of division instead of national reconciliation and peaceful reunification.

At today's grave and important crossroads between peace or war and between survival or destruction of the nation, our South Korean masses absolutely will not tolerate the criminal nuclear war exercise maneuvers of the U.S. aggressors and incumbent ruling group.

The Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise must be resolutely checked and frustrated. Herein lies the road of rescuing our masses from nuclear disaster and a shortcut to preventing confrontation and war and to achieving peace and reunification.

All patriotic democratic forces should rise as one in the struggle against the Team Spirit-93 exercise. They should more highly raise the beacon of antiwar and anti-nuclear peace movement.

The United States, looking straight at our masses' aspiration and will to achieve the reunification in the 1990's without fail, should immediately suspend the criminal Team Spirit-93 war exercise. It should withdraw without delay from South Korea the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, whose justification for remaining in this land has gone by, by keenly realizing its responsibility for division of the Korean peninsula.

The incumbent South Korean authorities should not carry out the treacherous act of driving fellow countrymen into calamities of nuclear war in collusion with outside forces. They should have a sense of honor.

Our SKNDF will, together with the patriotic masses from various social strata, more courageously wage the struggle to oppose the Team Spirit exercise and to expel the U.S. troops. Thus, we will expeditiously open the new days of peace and reunification on this land without fail by crushing vicious and cunning challenges at home and abroad.

[Dated] 11 March 1993

KCNA Reports South Purchase of Submarines

*SK1703102693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1013 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities decided to purchase five submarines from Germany, according to a report of MBC [Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation] from Seoul.

This clearly shows once again that the South Korean authorities are hell bent on arms buildup to hasten preparations for a war against the North.

Spokesman Discusses 'Comfort Women' Issue

*SK1703113993 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1119 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea answered a question of KCNA today on the preposterous argument brought forward by the Japanese delegate at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights some time ago.

The spokesman recalled that the Japanese delegate contended the United Nations is not a organisation discussing problems that had occurred before its founding and it is not proper for the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to deal with the postwar problem of compensation and spoke ill of the DPRK over the "problem of Japanese wives."

The spokesman said:

"This was an attempt of Japan to bar the United Nations from discussing the criminal violations of human rights committed by the Japanese imperialists in the past, including the problems of 'comfort women for the army' and forcible drafting.

"The problem of 'comfort women for the army' and the forcible drafting of more than 6 million people were a grave encroachment upon human rights that contradicted the wartime international law on 'crime against humanism.' Therefore it is only too natural for the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to discuss them either from the viewpoint of international law or of the unjustifiable act of the present Japanese Government.

"It is natural to deal with their crimes at the United Nations, all the more so because the Japanese Government has not yet admitted or compensated for the wartime crimes in human rights violation including the problem of 'comfort women for the Army.'

"As for the 'problem of Japanese wives,' they were married to Koreans in Japan and came to our country with their husbands at their own will and are now living a happy life with nothing to worry about.

"It is entirely because the Japanese Government has created deliberate obstacles to their home visit, pursuing a hostile policy against our Republic, that the Japanese wives cannot freely visit their home towns.

"It only brings the moral inferiority of the Japanese Government into bolder relief that it took the 'problem of Japanese wives' even to the U.N. arena while evading its responsibility for the inhuman heinous crime, such as the issue of 'comfort women for the Army.'

"The Japanese Government must act with discretion, deeply mindful that it can win the confidence of the international community only when it frankly admits the past crimes and honestly approaches the question of postwar disposal.

Joint-Venture With Japan Operates in Wonsan

*SK1603011893 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1507 GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 15 (KCNA)—The Kumgang joint-venture motor company operated with Korean manufacturers in Japan has made its appearance in Wonsan, a port city of culture on the East coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The parent body of this company specializing in-motor production is the Wonsan motor factory.

Founded in June 1959, the factory had produced motors of rice-transplanting machines, rice-seedling plucking machines, tree-felling electric saws and small-size lathes before it became a joint.

Going over to joint-venture, the factory reconstructed the building and remodeled the production processes to produce new-type motors, and renamed itself a company.

The state and the other side of the joint venture invested a large fund in constructing a new company building with a floor space of thousands of square meters and replenished its production processes with modern machines.

The company has acquired in a short period a capacity to produce annually tens of thousands of motors simple in mechanism and highly efficient.

It is composed of forging, casting, pressing, processing and assembling shops.

Engineers, assistant engineers and experts hold 36 percent of the employees.

Motors of the company find their ways to domestic and external markets.

The company is energetically accelerating preparations to produce motors of bigger horse power in a short time.

It plans to produce 700,000 motors a year at the end of the 1990s.

DPRK, PRC Sign Education Exchange Agreement 6 Mar

SK1503014493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 9 Mar 93

[Text] Li Tieying, Chinese state councillor and chairman of the State Education Commission, met with our country's Education Committee delegation led by Song Chae-song, first vice minister of higher education, on 6 March.

Talks were held in a friendly atmosphere at the meeting.

An agreement on educational exchange and cooperation between the two countries for 1993 and 1994 was signed on the same day.

Kim Il-song Receives Sihanouk Letter of Thanks

SK1403232693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 10 Mar 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received a letter of thanks from Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of Cambodian Supreme National Council, in response to his message of condolence sent to the prince on death of his aunt, princess Norodom (Kedkaniya). The letter is as follows:

Pyongyang

His Excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK,

Most esteemed His Excellency president of the Republic:

Your Excellency, the respected and great leader of the Korean people and Korean state, expressed the lofty

feeling of condolence in connection with the death of my aunt, Princess Norodom (Kedkaniya), and sent a large, beautiful wreath.

My family and I were greatly moved by the sincere feelings extended by you, His Excellency great leader, whom my aunt respected and admired most during her lifetime.

My family and I will never forget the numerous benevolence extended to my aunt Norodom (Kedkaniya) by the great leader.

We extend deepest thanks and respect to Your Excellency. I also pay my respects to Your Excellency, president and generalissimo of the Republic.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk

Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of Cambodian Supreme National Council. 4 March 1993 Beijing.

Officials Comment on Army Mobilization Order

SK1303011993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2309 GMT 12 Mar 93

["We Do Not Beg for Peace"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 1 (KCNA)—The order of respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il that the whole country, all the people and the entire Army should enter a state of semi-war has evoked great repercussions upon the soldiers of the People's Army and people of all strata.

Yi Ki-tong, a General of the Korean People's Security Force, said: The order of respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il is a legitimate self-defensive measure to defend our socialist country and gains of revolution as firm as rock from the military provocations of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

We do not want a war, but will never leave alone the aggressor to provoke us. If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets start a new war, we will fight to a finish for the party, the leader, and our style socialism centred on the popular masses which has been achieved at the cost of blood, thus dealing a crushing blow to the aggressors and exacting the dignity and honor of heroic Korea once again. Kim Chang-son vice-chairman of the Kangwon provincial administrative and economic committee, said: The entire people in the province will sincerely aid the People's Army in the spirit with which they fought in the same trenches with People's Army fighters during the fatherland liberation war and, if the enemies pounce upon us, we will make all efforts to accelerate the day of victory in the same ranks for beating them. Labor hero No Sok-yul, chairman of the North Pyongan provincial committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth, said: If the enemies recklessly fall upon us, our young people will determinedly turn out in a decisive battle by staking the honor of chuche Korea, heroic Korea and wage a gigantic annihilating battle becoming 5 million rifles and bombs.

Kim Yong-ok, chairman of the management board of the Wonhwa Cooperative Farm, Pyonwon County, South Pyongan Province, said:

The people of Wonhwa-i will do farming by the *chuche* based method with the same sirit and mettle as at the time when they produced grain in wartime under gunfire and reap a bumper crop this year, in which falls the 50th anniversary of the victory of our people in the fatherland liberation war.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Metal Industry Ministry for Aid

*SK1503121993 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1112 GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 15 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extended particular thanks in the name of the party Central Military Commission and supreme commander to a leading official and party organization of the Ministry of the Metal Industry for their exemplary aid to People's Army soldiers.

They prepared a large quantity of aid materials instrumental in improving the material and cultural living of the People's Army soldiers in a short period by actively enlisting inner reserves and sent them to servicemen.

Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks and gifts to the unit of the Korean People's Army (KPA) to which Comrade Kim Kuk-pyong belongs and to Han Kyu-chol, a company political organizer of the unit, who highly displayed beautiful communist traits.

Han Kyu-chol brought to his home Kim Yong-chol who became disabled while serving in the same unit and has taken care of his life and led him to keep the flowers of revolution in bloom.

Daily Urges Economic Construction Upsurge

*SK1503002993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0043 GMT 12 Mar 93*

[NODONG SINMUN 12 March editorial: "Let Us Effect a Great Productive Upsurge Holding a Hammer and Sickle in One Hand and a Gun in the Other Hand"]

[Text] Upon receiving the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's order, all people are now unanimously rising up to implement his order.

We should effect a great upsurge in the socialist construction by holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and a gun in other hand. This is very important in implementing his order.

In his order, Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, has indicated: All people should strongly arm themselves with our party's *chuche*-oriented outlook on war. They should effect a

great upsurge in the socialist economic construction, holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and gun in other hand.

We should effect a great upsurge in the socialist economic construction by upholding the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's order. This is very important work in positively coping with the prevailing grave situation. Because of the U.S. imperialists' new war provocation maneuvers, a grave situation has been created today in our country. Confrontation with the imperialists means a military confrontation. This is, at the same time, a confrontation based on the economic power.

Therefore, we should further strengthen the might of our self-reliant national economy to even more consolidate our country's military power in any difficult circumstances. We should also resolutely smash the imperialists' maneuvers by strengthening the socialist bases.

Accelerating the socialist economic construction is a life-and-death struggle to protect socialism, a life of our people, and to safeguard the fatherland's security.

Our fatherland has faced a grave danger today because of the enemy's war maneuvers. Therefore, now is the time for all people to further effect an unprecedented upsurge in the socialist economic construction.

We should effect a great upsurge in economic construction in conformity with the demands of the prevailing situation. What is important here is, first of all, to assume a thorough position and determination to implement the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's order. We should cherish deep in our hearts his greatness and the wisdom of his leadership as showed in his order.

The respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander has declared the semi-state of war. He has presented militant tasks of effecting a great productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction. This clearly demonstrates his indomitable will and the wisdom of his leadership which safeguards socialism of our own style by confronting any formidable enemies.

The respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander is taking the lead in the struggle to smash the enemies' aggressive maneuvers and to keep our socialism and mankind's happiness, bearing the destiny of the fatherland and the heavy tasks of revolution on his shoulder. We should effect a great productive upsurge in socialist construction by upholding his order. This is a noble struggle to brilliantly pioneer our people's destiny, while turning unfavorable conditions into favorable conditions and changing misfortune into a blessing.

All party members and working people should cherish deep in their hearts the pride and dignity of carrying out the revolution under the leadership of the great leader [yongdoja] who is victoriously leading the entire party, all people, and the entire Army. They should vigorously

struggle to effect a great productive upsurge in the socialist construction as stated in his order.

Today, we are in the semi state of war. Under these circumstances, our working people should make efforts to further effect a great productive upsurge in the socialist construction, thus holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and a gun in other hand. This is a true road in practically and successfully upholding the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's overall operational plan and intent.

What is important in effecting a great upsurge is that all party members and working people fulfill their assigned target for production ahead of schedule. In coping with the prevailing grave situation, it is important that functionaries and working people fulfill their revolutionary tasks in a responsible manner.

Today, our working people and functionaries should smoothly carry out their planned tasks. Without doing this, we cannot talk that they are discharging their responsibility and duty as combat fighters who received his order.

All functionaries and working people in all sectors and units of the national economy should overfulfill their planned tasks with a spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality for his order.

Thanks to our party's economic construction plan, we can make a great innovation in all sectors of the national economy. We can also overfulfill the monthly target for production at the beginning of this year.

We should carry out the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's extraordinary economic construction plan more smoothly, because this is an important guarantee in effecting a great upsurge in the socialist economic construction across the county.

All functionaries and working people should effect a great upsurge in the work of implementing the party's economic strategy. As a result, they should thoroughly implement the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's order.

In brilliantly carrying out a state assignment, it is important to positively support and follow the revolutionary initiative demonstrated by coal miners at the fourth company of the second pit of Chinni Coal Mine in Anju District Coal Mining Complex and at the Kim Yong-chin excavation platoon of Toksong Coal Mine in Tokchon District Coal Mining Complex.

As is already reported, workers at these coal mines have resolved to implement the yearly target for coal production ahead of schedule before the fortieth anniversary of victory in the fatherland liberation war. They continue to make innovation in their coal production as well.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has supported their revolutionary initiative and presented tasks to implement it. Therefore, all party members and working

people across the country should positively support and follow coal miners in Anju and Tokchon districts who demonstrated their patriotic initiative with their loyalty and dutifulness to the party and the leader. They should largely conduct a struggle to complete this year's target for production before the fortieth anniversary of victory in the fatherland liberation war, thus making innovation in their works as coal miners did.

We should effect a great productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction by upholding the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's order. What is important here is that all sectors and units more highly display a collectivist spirit to make constant innovations in their works.

Our country's socialist economic might can be displayed by the might of single-hearted unity. All sectors and units of the national economy are closely related to each other. Therefore, workers in these sectors and units should effect a great upsurge in their own sectors and units as well as in overall fields by cooperating with each other.

Whether they work in sectors or units of the national economy, all functionaries and working people should effect a productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction by only upholding the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's order. They should equip themselves with a burning ideological determination to smash the enemies's new war provocation maneuvers. Thus, they should vigorously make constant innovation in their works by cooperating with each other.

Although the situation is strained, we should thoroughly abide by the discipline and order of the economic management in conformity with the demands of the Taean work system. We should also rapidly and correctly carry out the economic organizational work in a militant manner. As a result, we should vigorously conduct a speed campaign in the socialist economic construction.

It is important to more highly display the spirit of revolutionary and militant struggle in effecting a productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction, holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and a gun in the other hand. The revolutionary upswing is the manifestation of a high sense of revolution. This is also the manifestation of combat capacity. We should extraordinarily display a spirit of a high sense of revolution to effect a productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction, holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and a gun in other hand.

With their mobilized and alert postures, all party members and working people should live and make innovations in their works in conformity with the situation in which the semi-state of war is declared. They should accelerate production and construction with the attitude and spirit of soldiers in service who received a battle order, while repudiating minor idleness and indolence.

Even if they produce only a gram of coal or weave only a piece of cloth, they must carry out all works with the spirit of smashing the enemies and with their faith in supplying ballots and bombs to the battlefields. These are the demands of the situation today. The spirit of self-reliance and fortitude showed by rear people during the fatherland liberation war is the struggling spirit that our people, who are in the semi state of war, must follow as it is.

All party members and working people should produce what did not exist and increase production to the maximum just like the days of war when they guaranteed electric production even under the most difficult situation. Thereby, they should effect a great productive upsurge in the socialist economic construction by utilizing all reserves.

It is important for party organizations at all levels to enhance their combat role to implement the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's order. Party organizations should further strengthen the propaganda work of the greatness of the party and leader even though the situation is strained. In particular, they should fully implement his order that declared the semi state of war this time.

Party organizations should strengthen indoctrination work of strongly arming party members and working people with our party's chuche-oriented outlook on war. They should also strengthen the revolutionary and class indoctrination work to make party members and working people bear a bitter grudge and hostility against the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet rings. Thereby, they should enable all people to vigorously participate in the production and construction battlefields with the spirit of exterminating the enemies.

Along with this, they should strengthen party-oriented guidance so that party members and working people can effect a productive upsurge in their own sectors and units by upholding the respected and beloved Comrade supreme commander's order.

KCNA Reviews 17 Mar Pyongyang Press

SK1703052893 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438*
GMT 17 Mar 93

[Press Review]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that immortal classical works of the Great Leader President Kim Il-song were studied and reported in different countries.

The paper conveys news that the work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable" was decided as a must book by the New Communist Party of Great Britain.

Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to the officers and men of the unit of the Korean People's Army to

which comrade Yi Sang-yop belongs, which produced a fine soldier who unhesitatingly laid down his youth for his revolutionary comrades, says the daily.

According to the press, an excursion team left Popyong for the old home of the Great Leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song in Mangyongdae to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the "One Thousand-ri Journey For Learning" covered by the great leader.

Figuring large in NODONG SINMUN is an article about the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il to make the Korean youth movement genuinely contribute to carrying the revolutionary cause of chuche through generations to accomplishment.

Under the headlines "Let Us Keep Ourselves In Full Combat Readiness Upholding Order of Comrade Supreme Commander!" and "Let Us Work and Live in a Revolutionary Way With the Spirit of Annihilating Enemy", papers report about youth and students across the country enthusiastically volunteering to join or re-join the People's Army and about innovations effected in mineral production and transportation.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an editorial calling for the entire officials and working people in the agricultural domain to finish sowing in good time in the spirit with which they deployed efforts for increased food production during the war.

Papers give accounts of rallies held at the Yongsong General Machine Bureau, the Hyesan Chongnyon Mine, the Hyonri Co-op Farm in Sepo County and the Hamhung College of Electronics and Automation to vow to fulfil the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, and convey reaction of overseas Koreans to his order.

Seen in the press is a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on instituting a commemorative order on the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

Papers report that the president of the state of Palestine met with the Korean ambassador.

Carried in papers are a statement issued by the C.C. [Central Committee], the Korean Chondoist Chongu Party supporting the DPRK Government statement on safeguarding the national sovereignty and supreme interests of the country, news that the DPRK government statement was distributed as an official document of the U.N. Security Council, and an account of a press conference called by the Pyongyang mission of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" (Hanminjon) regarding the release of a declaration on the situation by the Hanminjon Central Committee.

They inform the readers of a working contact held between liaison officials of both sides of the North-South

liaison office at Panmunjom regarding the repatriation of old Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are hell-bent on war exercises against the northern half of Korea, papers say.

World news of papers includes reports that personages of different countries protested to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) about the "resolution on special inspection" against the DPRK, papers of many countries published articles saying the DPRK has no nuclear weapons and that publications of various countries exposed the nuclear arms development of the South Korean authorities.

They report that the world public criticised the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, a test nuclear war, and thousands of students in South Korea met and demonstrated demanding an immediate end to the military exercises.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article under the title "Large-scale War Game and Peace Are Incompatible."

The press gives an account of the 1st meeting of the 8th National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China which opened in Beijing.

South Korea

Foreign Reports, Reaction to DPRK Withdrawal Noted

U.S. Requests Meeting With DPRK Counselor

SK1703061693 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
17 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] On 17 March, a Foreign Ministry official revealed that the United States had proposed through its embassy in Beijing that counselor-level contacts with North Korea be held upon North Korea's announcement of withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and that North Korea had responded by saying that contacts with the United States would resume only after the Team Spirit military exercise.

The official said that "prior to North Korea's declaration of its decision to withdraw from the NPT, the ROK and U.S. Governments had discussed ways to lead North Korea into accepting the International Atomic Energy Agency's special inspection, as well as ways to improve relations between the U.S. and North Korea," and added that "right after North Korea announced its decision to withdraw from the NPT, the U.S. planned on informing North Korea of friendly measures that had been mapped out by the United States and the ROK in an effort to persuade it to retract its decision."

The official said: "However, I understand that North Korea rejected holding contacts with the United States

while the Team Spirit exercise was taking place and proposed holding them after the exercise."

He added: "The U.S. Government has informed our government of these facts recently and our present stance is to welcome any efforts to persuade North Korea to retract its decision to withdraw from the NPT."

PRC 'Likely' To Set DPRK-U.S. Meet

SK1703032293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0259 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—China is likely to arrange a contact between North Korea and the United States to get Pyongyang to rejoin the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu indicated Wednesday. China had told Seoul that South Korea and the United States, but especially the United States, held the key to getting North Korea to change its mind, Han said in a breakfast seminar with Korea university graduates. Beijing had urged Washington to make an offer that could make a difference, such as opening dialogue, Han said.

Foreign Ministry sources said later that the United States had proposed one of its irregular counselor-level contacts with North Korea in Beijing, but North Korea had replied that it couldn't engage in dialogue while the annual "Team Spirit" South Korea-U.S. military maneuvers were under way. North Korea announced last week that it was leaving the NPT in defiance of world demands to see two highly suspected nuclear sites, inspections of which are critical to determining how much plutonium it has. The ministry sources said North Korea's response indicated it was likely to resume the contacts once Team Spirit was over.

"North Korea is using its NPT withdrawal as a bargaining chip to improve relations with the United States and Japan. It has changed its bargaining position," Han told the seminar. "The demand that North Korea accept nuclear inspections has changed to a demand that North Korea return to the NPT. "We have to talk directly with North Korea from a certain point. But our immediate measures are working closely with international organizations, allies and countries like Russia and China to influence Pyongyang out of its decision to leave the NPT," the foreign minister said. "Pyongyang is not likely to accept International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection, but South Korea will wait until the March 25 deadline before taking the matter to the U.N. Security Council." An IAEA resolution set a March 25 deadline for North Korea to accept special inspection on the two suspected sites.

On criticism that Seoul should not have renounced the nuclear option by giving up its nuclear reprocessing capabilities, Han said the decision still had significance for South Korea's allies. Reprocessing capability would have given North Korea the justification for developing nuclear weapons, and it did not necessarily add to South Korea's

security, Han said. "The fact that both sides own nuclear weapons does not guarantee deterrence," Han said.

'Official': DPRK Agrees to U.S. Talks

SK1703132493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1309 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—North Korea has agreed to the U.S. proposal to have councilor-level talks in Beijing in connection with Pyongyang's recent withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), it was learned on Wednesday. The 30th U.S.-North Korea councilor-level meeting is thus expected to take place in Beijing next week at the earliest.

A government official said that initially North Korea showed a negative response to the U.S. offer made soon after the North's withdrawal from the NPT on the grounds of the Team Spirit military exercise. "But, I understand that North Korea formally notified Washington today that they would have the meeting after the end of the Team Spirit exercise," the official said. He added there is no way to know what had prompted the North to change its mind and agree to have talks with the U.S.

U.S., DPRK Said To Hold Beijing Talks

SK1703125793 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 1200 GMT 17 Mar 93

[By correspondent Kim Chin-su]

[Text] It has been learned that North Korea, which had continuously rejected contacts with the United States on the grounds of the Team Spirit exercise, suddenly had a contact with the United States in Beijing upon the U.S. side's request.

It has also been learned that U.S. Counselor (Silver) had a contact with North Korean Counselor (Pak Tok-kyun) today and that at the contact, he warned that North Korea's declaration on the withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] gravely threatens peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in the North-east Asian region in general. He strongly urged North Korea to revoke its declaration on the withdrawal.

Right after North Korea declared the withdrawal from the NPT, the U.S. side proposed counselor-level contacts with North Korea, which have not taken place since last November, to discover North Korea's true intention and ask North Korea to revoke its withdrawal. North Korea, however, rejected this proposal on the grounds of the Team Spirit exercise.

North Korea accepted the contact with the United States today even though the Team Spirit exercise is still going on. This is a significant shift in its attitude. This is also an important event that could help one find out why North Korea issued the declaration on the withdrawal.

Given North Korea's practice that it rejects any request for dialogue during Team Spirit exercises, China may

have played some role in North Korea's acceptance of contacts with the United States. This is very noteworthy.

Meanwhile, (Thomas Herbert), deputy assistant U.S. secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, visited the ROK today. He met and exchanged views on the North Korean nuclear issue with Chong Chong-uk, senior presidential secretary of diplomatic and security affairs; First Assistant Foreign Minister (Sin Ki-pok); (Ku Pon-tae), director of the Reunification Policy Office of the National Unification Board; and other important ROK officials in charge of diplomatic and security affairs. He left the ROK today.

DPRK-PRC Telecom Link Restored

SK1703005693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0043 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Beijing, March 17 (YONHAP)—Telephone, telex and facsimile links between Beijing and Pyongyang reopened Tuesday afternoon, four days after North Korea announced its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). Facsimiles and telephone calls poured in as telecommunications between the two communist countries resumed, sources said. There was no explanation for the severance of links by North Korea, the sources said, adding that it wasn't due to technical or mechanical problems.

PRC 'Refused' Influence Request

SK1603142693 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] ROK Ambassador to China No Chae-won met Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin on 16 March and asked the PRC to persuade North Korea to revoke its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin refused this request, saying that it is desirable that North and South Korea settle the nuclear issue through inter-Korean dialogue, according to Western diplomatic sources in Beijing.

Japan To Support UN Intervention

SK1703045593 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
17 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] Yohei Kono, chief cabinet secretary of Japan, announced on 16 March that Japan will support United Nations intervention if international efforts fail to persuade North Korea to rejoin the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty within the next three months.

JSP Said to Cancel DPRK Trip

SK1703021593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0157 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 (YONHAP)—The Japan Socialist Party [JSP] canceled Tuesday plans to send a delegation to Pyongyang to persuade North Korea to rejoin the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), a

spokesman said. Chochongnyon, the association of pro-Pyongyang Korean residents in Japan, asked the party not to send the delegation because North Korea had declared a state of semi-war and sealed its borders.

The Socialist Party issued a statement Friday that, in a rare stand, called strongly for North Korea to reverse its decision to withdraw from the NPT and clear up suspicion it is developing nuclear weapons. The party decided Tuesday to dissolve a committee that handled the party's policies on Korean affairs and replace it with a Japan-South Korea committee and a Japan-North Korea committee. The move implied that the socialists were turning from a North Korea-centered policy to a South Korea-centered policy, a source speculated.

Mongolia Regrets DPRK Withdrawal

SK1703010393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Moscow, March 16 (YONHAP)—Mongolia expressed regret and apprehension Monday at North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). A Mongolian Foreign Ministry statement said that conflicts in international relations should be solved through dialogue based on peace and in a manner that contributes to interests of the Pacific Region, including the Korean peninsula, and the world. The ministry said that Mongolia supported efforts to strengthen the treaty.

Envoy Comments on IAEA Plan

SK1703021793 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 16 Mar 93 p 15

[Report on interview with Chong Kun-mo, ambassador in charge of atomic energy and chief of the Daewoo Senior Technology Institute, by correspondent Kwon O-chu in Seoul on 15 March]

[Text] Chong Kun-mo, ambassador in charge of atomic energy and chief of the Senior Technology Institute, flew home recently after participating in the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Board of Governors' meeting held in Vienna, Austria, on 25 February.

In an interview with correspondents on 15 March, he said: North Korea's decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] is designed to avoid the IAEA's special inspection. This also proves that the international community's suspicion that North Korea has tried to hide its nuclear weapons development is not groundless.

He said: The IAEA conducted six rounds of ad hoc inspections of nuclear facilities in North Korea in April last year. As a result, technological inconsistencies that do not match the content of North Korea's report on nuclear facilities were confirmed. In addition to the reported 16 nuclear locations, two more unreported nuclear locations have been discovered.

Accordingly, North Korea's honesty about its nuclear facilities came to be questioned.

He stressed: There is data which clearly proves that the two nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, North Korea which the IAEA has tried to conduct special inspections on are nuclear stockpile facilities.

The most important issue in nuclear inspections is to calculate, from the amount of nuclear waste produced, the amount of plutonium extracted in reprocessing through reverse calculations.

On the IAEA analysis of the sample of plutonium sent by North Korea, Ambassador Chong explained: North Korea submitted a report to the IAEA on its first round of nuclear reprocessing work to extract a small amount of plutonium in 1990. Contrary to the contents of the report, however, it conducted at least three more rounds of nuclear reprocessing. The goal of special inspection of nuclear facilities in North Korea is to confirm technological inconsistencies that do not match the contents of its reports on nuclear facilities, as well as to inspect unreported nuclear facilities.

In cases of high degrees of purity, such as plutonium 239, 4.3 kilograms of plutonium are needed to produce a nuclear weapon. With a low degree of purity, at least 7 to 8 kilograms are required.

Regarding plans to deal with North Korea's decision, he said: National security should be formulated according to national interests, not individual interests. The government should make efforts to formulate plans to promote the national interest, even if there are some differences of opinion among ministries.

He also stressed: The nuclear issue has a technological aspect. Therefore, the government needs to listen to experts in diplomatic affairs, national security, science, and technology.

ROK Reaction to DPRK Treaty Withdrawal

Considers Suspending Team Spirit-94

SK1703055393 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
17 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] It has been learned that sometime on 18 March, the government will make an official announcement on the conclusion of the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise. The unprecedented announcement on the end of the military exercise will be made in the form of a statement to the people by the defense minister. What is most noteworthy is that this is being announced at the same time tension on the Korean peninsula is high due to North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT].

In the announcement the government will reveal its willingness to suspend the Team Spirit-94 military exercise after consulting with the United States, if North Korea accepts the International Atomic Energy Agency's

special inspection. The government plans to announce that it is examining ways to keep some of the U.S. forces participating in Team Spirit in the ROK after the exercise, if the tense situation on the Korean peninsula continues.

A Defense Ministry official said: "Currently the Korean peninsula is in a very tense situation because of North Korea's proclamation of a semi state of war and its withdrawal from the NPT. Therefore, it was decided to make an announcement to the people on the conclusion of the Team Spirit military exercise. The reason for the announcement is in part to express our side's willingness to resume the South-North dialogue after the Team Spirit military exercise ends."

Minister: No 'Unusual' Military Moves

SK1703053693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
17 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae said yesterday that there is no particular indication of heightened military activities on the part of North Korea despite its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and declaration of a semi-war footing.

In a hearing of the National Assembly Defense Committee, Kwon said, "Though North Korean authorities put the nation on a semi-war footing and conduct blackout drills, they are taking no unusual military move. Their action is not much different from that they had taken during the previous ROK-U.S. Team Spirit military exercise periods. "But we cannot exclude the possibility of a sudden military provocation by North Korea and therefore we placed the military on alert," Kwon said.

Kwon said that the government is not sure whether North Korea already possesses nuclear weapons, even though there is an ample evidence that North Korea is capable of developing the arms of mass destruction. Kwon said that there had been talks with the U.S. authorities about keeping some of its troops and equipment now participating in the Team Spirit exercise even after the closing of the drill to cope with North Korean threats. The defense minister said the government is negotiating with the U.S. to have aircraft carrier Independence stay near the Korean peninsula.

Asked about the government's intention to reconsider its declaration not to have nuclear arms, Kwon said, "This is not the appropriate time to talk about the matter." He said, however, that the government may change its attitude about the non-nuclear declaration in accordance with the change of situation.

Answering the lawmakers' question on whether the government has any intention to discontinue Team Spirit exercise which some critics say has unnecessarily provoked North Korea, the minister said, "We will continue the exercise because we do not conduct the drill in order to test or provoke North Korea." Kwon said that the

military is fully prepared for possible small-scale armed conflict on the frontline areas as well as for full-scale war with North Korea.

Official: No DPRK 'Military Preparations'

SK1703124093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1216 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—No signs have thus far been detected of North Korea making military preparations of offensive nature, a Defense Ministry source said Wednesday.

"Military movements seen in the North since their withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and declaration of a semi-war state were merely on a level with those made during the past Team Spirit exercise periods," he said.

Given these and other circumstances, he said, the declaration of a semi-war state appears designed to restore the image of Kim Chong-il, the son of and heir to Kim Il-song, which, he said, was tarnished by the resumed Team Spirit.

"The declaration is apparently a time-limit measure taken also with the need to tighten the grip of internal control and to cope with possible international sanctions in mind," the source said.

He said that depending on the kind of international sanctions against North Korea, military tension may build up on the Korean peninsula.

There is the possibility that North Korea perpetrate direct or indirect provocation against the South in a bid to engineer the permanent suspension of the Team Spirit military exercise, the source added.

NSP Head Opposes Military Sanctions

SK1703111593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1103 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The government stands prepared against all contingencies that may occur following North Korea's recent withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), South Korea's top intelligence officer said Wednesday. Kim Tok, director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), said such contingencies include military adventurism by North Korea. "In the worst, we cannot exclude provocation large or small," he said.

Speaking at a meeting of the National Assembly defense committee, the NSP chief said rumors are spreading in the North currently that "a war would break out on March 23, 25 or April 10." Kim said, however, that there are no signs of unusual military movements in the North now excepting those similar to what were made during past Team Spirit exercise periods.

The NSP chief observed that North Korea would try to delay the resolution of the nuclear issue as long as

possible by resisting international pressure for the revocation of their withdrawal from the NPT. Saying that the North's nuclear issue is basically a question pending between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Kim said he, however, believes the matter should be resolved in a way that does not resort to military sanctions. "There is much possibility that the United Nations Security Council will choose economic sanctions against North Korea rather than military ones," he said, adding that if China goes along, economic sanctions would prove working. [sentence as received]

The professor turned official said that through many channels North Korea are sending signals to the South that they would provide a breakthrough in strained inter-Korean relations after Kim Il-song's birthday on April 15 or after the American troops now participating in the Team Spirit exercise returned to their home bases by April 20. He said his NSP was the first to detect in January 1984 signs of North Korea expanding the area of their nuclear center at Yongbyon and building a second 30,000kw atomic reactor there.

"The NSP, while analyzing the North's ability to develop nuclear weapons, had the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States talk the former Soviet Union into applying pressure on North Korea for joining the NPT," he said. As for the background behind North Korea's recent withdrawal from the NPT, Kim said, "at present, nuclear is a warrant of the survival of their system." He said that by maintaining a "planned ambiguity" about their nuclear development, North Korea had enjoyed political and military gains. "Now, however, Pyongyang seems feeling the acuteness that once they allow special inspections by the IAEA, they should give up that leverage," Kim said.

NSP head Kim further said at the assembly committee that North Korea is believed to have already extracted seven to 22 kilograms of plutonium. "Given the time needed in producing a nuclear warhead, it is assumed North Korea would be able to possess one to three nuclear weapons by 1994 or 95," Kim said. He said there was the intelligence report that North Korea recommended to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il in the middle of last year that they conduct a nuclear test. But, North Korea, according to the report, withheld the test in the judgement that such test was improper under the situation, the NSP chief said.

Official on IAEA Disagreements

SK1703032393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0304 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is expected to urge North Korea to allow a special inspection of two suspected nuclear sites rather than demand that it rejoin the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday. The 35-member Board of

Governors was to meet unofficially at IAEA headquarters in Vienna on Wednesday for consultations before a formal session Thursday to coordinate joint measures.

"Strictly speaking, North Korea's departure from the NPT is not a legal matter under the IAEA's authority," Kum Chong-ho, director-general of the ministry's International Organizations Bureau, said. Countries like Libya, Syria and Vietnam sit on the IAEA board but are not members of the NPT, Kum said. "These countries may not unanimously agree to demand that North Korea reinstate itself in the nuclear treaty because of their own status," he said. The board is more likely to confirm that IAEA's Feb. 25 resolution demanding special inspection on North Korea's two undeclared facilities is still effective and that Pyongyang must comply with this demand, he said.

Meanwhile, South Korea is consulting with other key members of the board, including Japan, the United States and Russia, on their positions for Thursday's session, the Ministry officials said. Russia was "more passive" than other countries in demanding a strong-toned resolution against North Korea at the session, they said.

U.S. Commerce DRAM Decision Pleases Government

SK1703082193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0613 GMT
17 Mar 93

[By So Hae-sung]

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—Unexpectedly low final U.S. dumping margins on South Korean computer memory chips have brightened many faces in industry and government here, and elicited a round of back-patting for a job well done. The U.S. Commerce Department set dumping rates of 0.74 percent on Samsung Electronics Co., 4.97 percent on Goldstar Electron Co., and 7.19 percent on Hyundai Electronics Co. in its final determination Tuesday.

Happiest of all were Samsung and Goldstar, accused of dumping margins of 87.44 percent and 52.41 percent, respectively, in a preliminary ruling on Oct. 21 last year. But Hyundai, a newcomer in the U.S. market, was found to have sold its chips at prices far below "fair market value".

Samsung, luckiest of them all, landed a nominal dumping rate in respect of its large volume of exports to the United States, according to industry sources. Samsung exported 485 million U.S. dollars of chips to the North American country last year, or 60 percent of Korea's total U.S. exports of 854 million dollars. A 5-percent dumping rate is unlikely to affect Goldstar's U.S. sales much. The company shipped 207 million dollars of Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) chips to the United States in 1992, or 25 percent of the total.

The Korean manufacturers will be able to attend the public hearings of the International Trade Commission (ITC) with more confidence of avoiding a decisive ruling

on April 29 on whether they hurt or threaten the U.S. semiconductor-related industry. Together with diplomatic efforts, they hope to present a picture to the U.S. ITC that they are far from a threat to American industry. With success, the companies would get back deposited bonds equal to the preliminary anti-dumping charges and be free of any duties. If the ITC holds them guilty, Korean chip makers must deposit cash equivalent to their punitive rates set by Washington from May on their exports to the United States.

But industry sources say that because the average final anti-dumping rate is far less than the margin of 15 percent, chip exports that accounted for 30 percent of the U.S. market will be little affected. They are also optimistic of getting back most of their deposits during a new trial next year. Both in the business and government, tension and pessimism had prevailed since the DRAM saga began with a complaint lodged by U.S. Semiconductor Manufacturer Micron Technology Co. last April.

While the industry sweated blood trying to satisfy the U.S. administration during its month-long field investigation last November, both here and in the United States, Seoul government officials flew to Washington twice to stop the investigation by offering a suspension pact based on a data collection program. But when Seoul failed to strike a semiconductor agreement with Washington before the deadline on Feb. 17 and was forced to sit back with the companies and pray for low dumping margins, American industry raised its voice for a fair ruling on Korean chips.

Korean chip makers projected that they would have to give up their share of the U.S. market, hard gotten from Japanese traders, and instead concentrate on Southeast Asia. The U.S. market has been hit by a demand surge for DRAM chips and price rises of 20 percent since Korean companies shouldered the provisional anti-dumping charges. There are likely to be more shortages and skyrocketing prices in view of the recent strength of the Japanese currency.

U.S. computer and semiconductor parts companies also pointed out that only Korean chip makers could check a Japanese monopoly. According to ministry data, of the 3.5 billion-dollar U.S. DRAM market in 1992, Korean chips took 908 million dollars, or 25.9 percent, while Japanese shipments reached 1.7 billion dollars, or 49.4 percent. Sales by U.S. companies stood at 804 million dollars (22.9 percent).

Washington, under fire as protectionistic since Bill Clinton became president, is said to have taken into account public views and Seoul's persuasion. On many occasions, the Korean Government sought Washington's understanding that semiconductors are a rare area where Korea is recognized for international competitiveness and warned of awkward trade relations in case of high anti-dumping punishment.

The industry sources say that the four-month semiconductor strain brought many lessons and trade experience

to chip makers and the government. The trade, industry, and Resources Ministry said Wednesday it was determined to convince the ITC that Korean DRAM chips were no harm to American industry. Through cost cutting and stable prices, Korea's semiconductor manufacturers are now confident of continuing their inroads into the U.S. market.

ROK, PRC To Establish Pollution Prevention Committee

*SK1203014393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0049 GMT
12 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea's environmental diplomacy received another boost this week when China accepted a proposal to establish a joint committee for research and pollution prevention, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday. A Korean delegation led by a director-general-level official is to go to Beijing next month to select viable projects now that China has given a positive response to Seoul's offer for bilateral environment cooperation. The first two-way talks on the environment will be specially welcome here because they are the beginning step to preventing air-borne pollution flowing from China to neighboring Asian countries.

Seoul wants access to Chinese data on air and Yellow Sea pollution for use in clean-up projects. Beijing emphasizes technology transfer in clean coal and emissions reduction. Work is under way to sign a Korea-Japan environment pact, under which Seoul hopes to get advanced technology. The pact, to be signed during first half of the year, includes a training program for some 20 Korean environmentalists in Japan.

Seoul will accept Moscow's proposal for a joint study of East Sea pollution, hopefully with funding from U.N. organizations, the officials said. Although follow-up checks showed there was no danger from nuclear waste discarded in the East Sea by the Russian Navy, officials here want a thorough Seoul-Moscow joint study. The U.N. Development Program (UNDP) and the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) have already responded favorably to Seoul's request for funding for the study and may contribute up to 500,000 U.S. dollars, the officials said.

PRC's Commercial Goods Corporation Head Interviewed

*SK1303020393 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 9 Mar 93 p 17*

[Text] "I hope you will see my visit to the ROK meaningful not only as a Chinese official's visit for trade consultation but also as a visit by a Korean compatriot to his fatherland," said Huang Fengji (age 50, Hwang Pong-kil in Korean name), president of the China Commercial Goods Corporation. He is the highest-ranking Korean-Chinese official of the economy-related posts of China. He arrived at Kimpo Airport on the afternoon of

7 March with his four Chinese colleagues for the importation of steel from the ROK.

The China Commercial Goods Corporation, the Chinese counterpart of the ROK's Office of Supply is in charge of importing various kinds of raw materials and semifinished goods such as steel, automobiles, and chemical materials that are needed for the Chinese key industries. He came to the ROK at the invitation of Hanson Untong Ltd., a trading firm for ROK-China trade. "We will sign a contract for the importation of \$100 million worth of steel during our visit," he said. "We would like to visit the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Resources to discuss ways to expand bilateral trade between the two countries," he added.

The contract for \$100 million worth of steel which will be signed by President Huang is the largest single trade contract to date between the two countries. "Ever since North Korea enticed away six prominent Korean-Chinese nuclear physicists in 1964, the Chinese Government has been reluctant to appoint Korean-Chinese to important posts for quite some time", he said. "This implicit restriction, however, has now been lifted and anyone with qualifications can be appointed to key posts," he added.

Born in Longjing in Jilin Province, China in 1942, he graduated from Jilin Economy and Trade School in 1964 and started his career as a public official in the Ministry of Commerce of the State Council. Since he was appointed president of the newly established Commercial Goods Corporation in 1988, the Chinese Government has recognized his ability as an economic expert.

"If the circumstance permits, I would like to help build the Chinese motor-vehicle industry by introducing ROK motor-vehicle-maintenance technology to China. I look forward to active assistance from the ROK, my fatherland," he said. The delegation led by President Huang will stay in the ROK until 13 March. During the visit, they are expected to sign contracts with Pohang Iron and Steel Company and Tongguk Steel for the import of steel and meet figures from the domestic commercial and industrial circles.

'Comfort Women' May Sue Japan

SK1703092093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0829 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—While the Korean Government was not going to press Japan on an official level to compensate comfort women, the surviving sex slaves could still sue the Japanese Government by themselves, the Foreign Ministry's Director-general for Asian Affairs, Yu Pyong-u, said Wednesday. Chongdaehyop (the Korea Council for the Women Drafted by Japan for Sexual Service) and other civic organizations reacted with outrage when President Kim Yong-sam said his government would not ask for compensation in connection with the comfort women issue.

"Kim's remark was an expression of his thought that the Korean Government should not be indifferent to the state of former comfort women. He meant only that there would be no demand for compensation made at the government level," Yu said. "This doesn't mean that the government would not let the sufferers sue individually for compensation," he said. The government would announce its position on the issue soon, Yu said.

Second state minister for political affairs Kwon Yongcha met with Chongdaehyop leaders on Tuesday and told them that Kim's intention was to say that it was the government's duty to take care of former comfort women. Chongdaehyop sent a letter to the president on Monday in which it noted that "comfort women reserve the right to file lawsuits against the Japanese Government based on international law" and asked whether the Korean government would still not ask Japan to compensate them even when its criminal culpability became evident in a thorough investigation.

Russia Fails To Pay Interest for 3d Straight Month

SK1703065893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0025 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—Prospects for the resumption of South Korea's tied loans to Russia appear gloomy as Moscow has failed to pay interest on the loans for three months in a row, government officials said Wednesday. As of Wednesday, Russia hadn't paid 4.5 million U.S. dollars in interest for the first three months of this year on tied loans extended by Korea for the purchase of consumer goods, the officials said.

Korean Government officials had hoped to resume economic cooperation with Russia since Moscow said it would start paying the interest from March. Russia is also behind on its promised payments in aluminum ingots for South Korea's cash loans. Russia had said it would deliver the aluminum ingots from this month.

Korean Businessmen To Visit Russia's Far East

SK1303081493 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 13 Mar 93 p 8

[Text] About 30 Korean businessmen will visit the Far East region of the former Soviet Union for 10 days, the Korea-CIS Economic Association said yesterday. The private trade mission, to be led by Choe Chong-hwan, chairman of the association, will tour such areas as Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Kamchatka and Primorsk. The businessmen will have a series of business meetings with their counterparts in those areas and will tour industrial sites. The association, which is organizing the trade tour, plans to dispatch another trade contingent to major industrial centers, including Kiev, Minsk, Alma-Ata and Tashkent, in the latter half of the year.

During the delegation's tour of the Far East areas, Korean businessmen are expected to cooperate with the

Association for Scientific, Business and Cultural Cooperation with the Republic of Korea (ASBIROK) to bring forth concrete and promising cooperative projects for development. The private body, set up in mid-1992, is led by Nikolai Malyshev, adviser to the president of the Russian Federation. A seminar for Korean and Russian businessmen is likely to take place in Seoul in late May or early June, according to the Korea-CIS Economic Association.

The seminar will be the third of its kind and is likely to be timed with Russia Week, during which new Russian products will be displayed at the Korea Exhibition Center. The second Korea-Russia Businessmen's Seminar was held in Moscow in early February this year. An 18-member Korean business contingent visited such industrial sites as Moscow, Zelenograd, Tula and St. Petersburg. The Russian side suggested the formation of a task force, comprising experts from Korea and Russia, for a feasibility study in the field of natural resources development. The suggestion drew a positive response from the Korean side.

Mitterrand, Swedish, SRV Prime Ministers To Visit
SK1503095093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 15 (YONHAP)—Foreign heads of state and prime ministers, including French President Francois Mitterrand, are lining up to visit South Korea in April and May to discuss areas of mutual concern and facilitate relationships in summits with President Kim Yong-sam. Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and National Unification Committee on Monday that Mitterrand was expected to visit Seoul in late April or late May, while Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt was due here from April 6 through April 8.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger is to spend May 10-12 here, and Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet is scheduled to follow him on May 13-16. Han said other heads of state and premiers were to visit, but working-level discussions were still under way on the details.

ROK To Participate in Multilateral Security Talks
SK1703071693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] The government will actively participate in multilateral security dialogue with Asia and Pacific nations for cooperation on regional problems like the North Korean nuclear issue, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said yesterday. In his briefing to President Kim Yong-sam on policy programs for this year, Han also said that his ministry will make all out diplomatic efforts to solve the nuclear problem before it is taken up at the United Nations with the likely result of sanctions.

While watching closely the development of regional security dialogue, the government will take part in the

extended foreign ministers talks of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) slated for July and a preceding senior officials meeting of the association scheduled for May in Singapore, Han said. He noted that his ministry will also prepare for the possible development of regional dialogue by ASEAN members into a concrete security cooperation system.

The government will also make the most of a variety of non- or semi-governmental security dialogue with neighboring nations in Northeast Asia as well as ASEAN to seek security at the pan-Asia-Pacific level, the foreign minister said. He said the non- or semi-governmental dialogues involved are the Asia-Pacific Round Table slated for June 6-9 in Kuala Lumpur, the North Pacific Security Dialogue scheduled for late this month in Vancouver and the Seoul International Forum. The government also plans to host a five-party regional meet among South Korea, the United States, Japan, Australia and Canada in September on Cheju Island, he told the president.

President Urges Civil Servant Anticorruption Drive
SK1703080193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0317 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam, saying no misconduct could be pardoned and no sanctuary given regardless of rank, called on civil servants Wednesday to join him in a campaign to establish national discipline. Kim, presiding over a high-level meeting on the campaign, said that the government should take steps to prevent corruption and misdeeds in addition to punishing wrongdoers. Loopholes in rules and regulations should be corrected, he said. Prime Minister Hwang In-song, Board of Audit and Inspection Chairman Yi Hoe-chang, Economic Planning Minister Yi Kyong-sik, Home Minister Yi Hae-ku and other law enforcement- and inspection-related ministers were at the meeting.

"The campaign should be conducted in a quiet and substantial manner, with a far-reaching objective. The uprooting of corruption and misconduct should not make innocent people uneasy. "It should rather be conducted in a productive manner that will revitalize the economy and promote the standard of living for the people. In parallel with the measures against corruption and misconduct, there must be measures to boost the morale of civil servants so that they may work for the people with a sense of pride. "The purge of corrupt people is intended to achieve national harmony and unity in the long run, not to alienate them from society. The reforms we have just started will breathe new life into society and not jeopardize its vitality."

Economic Planning Minister Yi said he would take steps against unfair trade practices, especially unfair transfer pricing within business groups and unfair contract practices between large and small firms. Home Minister Yi said he would assign some 19,000 riot police to a 180-day war on violence, drugs and kidnappings.

Government Appoints New Foreign Ministry Officials*SK1703081793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0548 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The government appointed Yang Se-hun, a research officer at the Foreign Ministry's Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS), consul-general to Honolulu on Wednesday. Yun Hae-chung, deputy director-general for Asian affairs, goes to Shanghai and Pak Kyong-tae, minister at the embassy in India, takes the helm of the consulate-general in Agana, Guam, in a reshuffle of five posts. U Chong-ho, a research officer at IFANS, goes to Fukuoka, Japan, as consul-general while Hwang Kil-sin, also an IFANS research officer, was appointed to Hamburg, Germany.

Yang, 55 and a Seoul native, joined the ministry in 1963. A graduate of Seoul National University, he served as counsellor to the embassy in Tokyo and consul-general to Kobe. At home, he was deputy director-general of International Economic Affairs and Middle East and African affairs. He was also director-general of information and cultural affairs. He returned in February last year.

Yun, 47, is a native of Hampyong, South Cholla Province. He graduated from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and joined the ministry in 1968. His foreign postings included vice consul to Hong Kong, counsellor to Tokyo, vice consul-general to Hong Kong and counsellor to Beijing. At home, he served as director of the Oceania division and of the Northeast Asia division II. Yun returned in January 1992.

New Consul-General to Agana Pak Kyong-tae is 52, and was born in Chongju, North Chungchong Province. A graduate of Korea University, he joined the ministry in 1976 and served as first secretary to Indonesia, counsellor to Finland and research officer at IFANS. He has been in New Delhi as minister since March 1991.

U, 54 and with IFANS, is a Seoul National University graduate from Chongyang, South Chungchong Province. He joined the ministry in 1970 and went abroad as consul to Houston and Kobe and counsellor to Taiwan and Ethiopia. U also served as director of the education and training division and of the passport division. He returned as an IFANS researcher in July 1991.

Hwang, 53, is from Kimje, North Cholla Province. A graduate of Seoul National University, he joined the ministry in 1968 and took his first overseas post in Germany. He later went to New Zealand, again to Germany and to Hungary as counselor. He was deputy director-general for passports before moving to ifans as a research officer in December last year.

In a related move, the ministry named Son Chon-yong new assistant minister in charge of economic affairs. Choe Tong-chin will move over from IFANS as chief of protocol and Pyon Chong-kyu, presidential secretary for foreign affairs

and national security, will take over as director-general of the Middle East and African Affairs Bureau.

Government To Lift Ban on Shortwave Radio Receivers*SK1703025393 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
17 Mar 93 p 3*

[Text] Local citizens will soon be able to tune into North Korean broadcasts with the lifting of regulations on the sale and operation of radios that can tap into shortwave frequencies. Once the ban is lifted, listeners will not only be able to get access to North Korean broadcasts but other international programs on VOA (the Voice of America) and BBC (the British Broadcasting Corporation).

The Communications Ministry said yesterday that it would consult with related government agencies, including the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), to introduce the change by the end of this year. The step was contained in the communications section of President Kim Yong-sam's measures to liberalize economic and administrative regulations, ministry officials said.

The government has thus far been prohibiting the distribution and operation of radios capable of receiving any shortwave broadcasts for security reasons since most north Korean broadcasts are dispatched on related frequencies. With a general prevailing mood of reduced tensions between the South and the North, they said, there is no longer a need to block out broadcasts from Pyongyang even though most of them contain communist propaganda.

At present, North Korea operates three broadcasting stations in three cities, including Pyongyang and Kangkey, airing programs on 26 shortwave and one medium-wave frequencies. Of the broadcasts is one carried on four shortwave and one medium-wave frequencies which is aimed at influencing South Korea youths to accept North Korean President Kim Il-song's "Chuche" ideologies.

Broadcast in Haeju, Hwanghae-to, the program, titled "the Voice of Saving the Nation [Voice of National Salvation, VNS]," is carried on 1,054 KHz with a power of 1,500 kilowatts, making it powerful enough to be received in Seoul. The ministry officials said there had been no alternative but to ban the distribution and operation of radios with required capabilities since it is technically difficult to jam shortwave broadcasts.

In addition to broadcasts aimed at South Korean youths, the North Korean authorities send out other programs for the benefit of its people in foreign countries as well as allies in nine languages including English, French, Chinese and Russian. South Korea currently allows the access of broadcasts in FM and AM from all over the world while dispatching programs in 12 languages for international receiving, the officials said.

Broadcasting Corporation Names New President

SK1603042193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0132 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—The foundation for broadcast culture, the main stockholder in the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC), called an emergency meeting of the board of directors on Tuesday and decided to name Masan MBC President Kang Song-ku new president of MBC. MBC President Choe Chang-pong resigned recently and Kang will be officially appointed at the annual general meeting of stockholders on Wednesday.

Kang was born in Hwasung, Kyonggi Province, in 1940 and graduated from the agricultural economics department of Korea University. He joined MBC in 1966 and has worked as correspondent to Japan, news director, chief commentator and newscaster. He was appointed president of Masan MBC in 1991.

Finance Ministry Eases Foreign Exchange Restrictions

SK1703065293 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
17 Mar 93 p 9

[By staff correspondent Yi Chang-sop]

[Text] The Ministry of Finance [MOF] yesterday scrapped its restrictions on consumer finance, credit card usage and merchandise coupons issues under an inter-cabinet program to ease regulations. It also softened the current tight foreign exchange concentration system under which all foreign currency holdings must be reported as well as eased documentation requirements for foreign exchange deals. A resident can hold up to 10,000 dollars (currently 5,000 dollars) and Korean firms, including general trading firms, can possess up to 100 million (currently 10 million dollars) dollars.

The MOF said it will deregulate the issuing rate of state bonds this year and float state bonds through a competitive auction system. The MOF said it softened 199 out of 232 rules and the rest of the regulations will be liberalized in keeping with the changing economic situation.

From today, these moves will be implemented through revision of regulations and guidances, an MOF official said. It said the current ban on land purchases by conglomerates will be lifted. Car rental, condominium and public bath services will no longer face disadvantageous tax treatment as these sectors will be no longer considered luxurious services, it said. Signatures will replace "legal registered seal (ingam dojang)" certification on all financial transactions on a gradual basis, it said.

Foreign direct investment applications will be processed within ten days of submission and firms were given more freedom in raising funds overseas. Small-and medium-sized firms will be given complete freedom in raising funds by issuing guaranteed bonds, the MOF said. Leasing firms will no longer face discriminatory tax

treatment as they are now categorized as financial institutions. Banks will be given freedom in providing loans to consumers who want to buy durable goods including cars. The current maximum monthly cash advance ceiling of 300,000 won per card holder will be scrapped.

Furthermore, the current rule of banning a card holder from buying more than 1 million worth of goods on an installment basis will be abolished. Thus credit card firms and card holders will be given more freedom, the MOF said. Department stores, shoe makers and gift shops will be allowed to issue merchandise coupons or gift certificates, which are widely used by people as gifts. Foreign exchange banks will be permitted to provide underlying documents for foreign exchange forward deals within 30 days after the striking of contracts. Currently, foreign exchange forward deals with transaction values of more than 3 million dollars must be made after underlying documents are provided. The rule will facilitate the development of the foreign exchange forward market in Korea, an MOF official said.

In a move to further deregulate the foreign exchange business, the MOF also permitted general trading companies to invest in foreign bonds and equities. Korean firms will no longer need prior approval from the Ministry of Finance for issuing straight bonds and floating rate notes. The overseas offshoots of Korean firms will need not make prior consultation with the MOF or banks to raise less than 20 million dollars outside Korea, it said. It also eased requirements for firms seeking to issue overseas bonds and equity-linked bonds, including convertible bonds. Despite such a wide ranging deregulatory moves, the MOF has not eased its restrictions on foreign capital inflow, development of new financial products, and the adjustment of business boundaries among financial institutions and service fees.

'Real-Name' Transaction Implementation Delayed

SK1703092193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0825 GMT
17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The government announced a lengthy delay in implementing second-phase interest rate deregulation and real-name financial transactions Wednesday. Second-phase liberalization of interest rates, due this month, had been set back to the latter half of the year, Finance Minister Hong Chaehyong said.

Details of regulations on the use of real names in financial deals will be included in the new five-year economic development plan, scheduled to be drawn up by June and implemented from July, Hong said, going back on a government plan to name the timetable for the real-name system in May. The requirement to use real names in all financial transactions, including securities trading, to make everyone declare all forms of income for tax purposes, has been pending for the last decade as it was held back by opposition from the business community.

Hong stressed that there was no change in the president's campaign promise to initiate real-name financial practices at the earliest date possible but slow enough to minimize the effect on the economy. However, the government's first responsibility was to pull the economy out of its slump, Hong said, adding that it was best to save the real-name system for the long-term development plan to protect the economic recovery.

The government is expected to gradually implement the real-name system and apply it fully near the end of President Kim Yong-sam's tenure. It will start with requiring real names on financial assets and separate taxation.

Over breakfast with the president, financial leaders, including Chong Chun-taek, chairman of the Korea Federation of Banks, pleaded for a stimulus package first and the real-name system second. Because economic growth in April-June looked to be lower than the initially forecast 5 percent to 6 percent, the government had decided to deregulate interest rates after watching growth in the second quarter, Hong said. He hinted at plans for lowering rediscount rates and other public rates to boost investment. The appointments of the bank superintendent and governors of state-run banks will be finalized this week, he added.

Labor, Management Groups Confrontational on Wages

SK1703033193 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 Mar 93 p 3

[Text] There is a general mood of confrontation in industry with employers and workers refusing to budge from their positions of wage increases for this year. The Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU) and the Korea Employers Association (KEA) have met for six rounds of talks since early last month but there have been no signs of the gap narrowing. The moderate FKTU, the largest labor organization in the country, is demanding a uniform increase of 9.2 percent of a scaled hike ranging from single to double-digit figures.

The KEA, on the other hand, is holding fast to its position of giving a scaled increase of more than 4.2 percent but within a single-digit limit, sources at the meeting said. Making the situation worse is that other union organizations, including the National Federation of Metal Workers' Unions, are harshly criticizing the ineffective negotiating efforts of FKTU. They charged that FKTU is increasingly sympathizing with policies of the government under which companies are being asked to limit the increase in wages to less than 5 percent. On the part of owners of small and medium-size companies, whose financial standing has been deteriorating over the past few years, they lashed out at large business conglomerates which are planning to offer hefty hikes this year.

Jan-Feb Auto Exports Increase 138.3 Percent

SK1703064893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 Mar 93 p 7

[Text] Korea's car exports are picking up thanks to the weak Korean won and carmakers's effort for market diversification, the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association said yesterday. Korean automakers shipped 82,539 units to foreign markets in the first two months of the year, up 138.3 percent from the same period a year earlier. The exports were valued at \$221.7 million, up 126.7 percent.

The brisk exports are also ascribable to the recovering U.S. economy, the association said. Exports of automobile kits in the cited period were 10,952 units, up 268.4 percent. Hyundai Motor exported 53,957 units, up 131.8 percent, Kia Motors 18,132 units, up 115.7 percent, and Daewoo Motor 7,536 units, up 262 percent. The number of cars exported in January-February breaks down to 77,833 passenger cars, up 143.3 percent from a year earlier.

Ministry Says Technology Exports Double in 1992

SK1703075693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0656 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—South Korean technology exports doubled to 80 last year over 1991 but turnover shrank 7.6 percent to 32.5 million U.S. dollars, according to a report by the Science and Technology Ministry on Wednesday. Exports were just 3.8 percent of imports, however, said the report, titled "a survey on exports of technologies in 1992."

Most of the export boost came from China, which bought 35 Korean technologies, but revenue was low because much of the technology was primitive or middle level at best. Second biggest buyer after China was India with eight, followed by Malaysia with six, Indonesia and Bangladesh with five each and the Philippines with four.

Machinery technology stood atop with 24, then came electronics and electricity technology with 16, oil refinery and chemistry, 11, textiles, seven, and spinning and metals, three each. Korea has exported 304 technologies for 214 million won (272,900 dollars) since 1978, when it sold its first technology abroad.

ROK To Crack Down on Rhino Horn Trading

SK1203071193 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] The government will crack down on trading of rhino horns, while seeking to join the convention on protection of wildlife by the end of June this year the Foreign Ministry said yesterday. A ministry official said that member countries of the convention resolved at its 29th standing committee meeting March 1-5 in Washington to call on South Korea, Japan, Taiwan and

Yemen to halt trading of rhino horns and destroy their holdings to protect the endangered animal. The international pact is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) which was adopted to protect the wild animal.

Rhino horns are used as a core ingredient of Oriental medicine but they are smuggled and traded on black markets in Korea, the ministry official said, adding that there are no reliable figures about the trading. Unless the trading is eradicated by the next standing committee

meeting slated for September this year, the four countries will face trade retaliation in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last meeting, the official said.

The U.S. government held a public hearing on Jan. 21 to decide whether it would take retaliatory action against illegal trader nations of wildlife now on the verge of extinction, the official said. The Korean Government has been asked to submit documents to the committee concerning illegal dealing in rhino horns and measures to crack down on the smuggling activities.

Burma

Press: Afghan-Trained 'Fighters' Combat 'Occupation'

BK1503130193 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST
in English 15 Mar 93 p 1

[By Khalid Sultan]

[Text] More than 5,000 Burmese Muslim fighters have so far been trained by the Afghan jehadi groups mainly the Hezb-e-Islami of Hekmatyar, the Jamiat-Islami Afghanistan of Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani and Etehad-e-Islami Afghanistan of Abdur Rab Rasool Seyyaf.

The trained fighters have returned to their province, Arakan, which has been part of Burma after the departure of the British rulers. The fighters are associated with the Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO), a Muslim fighting force, along the Bangladeshi border. Abu Khalid Arakani, the RSO representatives in Peshawar, coordinating between the Afghan Mojahedin and their party back in Burma, told THE FRONTIER POST that the youths of over five million Arakani Muslims were increasingly turning to the RSO and being trained mostly in Afghanistan to fight against the Burmese "occupation" of their land.

They said, "many of the kings of Arakan were Muslims. They ruled from 1404 to 1622. But the British rule of Burma forced its annexation to the mainland. The Arakanis were increasingly becoming conscious of their identity of being Muslims. So they were struggling to realize the goal of their 'religious nationalism' and the secession of their land from Burma".

To a question, the RSO stalwarts acknowledged the cooperation with Arakan Muslims by Bangladesh and Pakistan but commented that they did not extend any military cooperation. "Only the Afghan brothers are helping us to train our men to fight a Muslim war". From the literature RSO is distributing in Pakistan, it is evident that the organisation has been collecting sufficient funds to set up libraries, run mobile clinics and maintain mosques in Arakan.

The RSO men explained that the people of Arakan had been turning against what they said was the "chauvinist" Burmese regime. The regime, they alleged, had "committed armed operations in Arakan in which, right from 1948 date the Muslims continued to suffer". They explained that from 1942 to 1987, the chauvinists destroyed 662 settlements, expelled 100,000 Muslims, massacred as many as 100,000, committed 5,000 cases of arson, raped 1,500 women, detained 3,000 Muslims, destroyed 600 mosques, maktabas/madrasahs [mosque schools], destroyed 200,000 copies of holy books and scriptures, confiscated huge pieces of land, removed 10,000 Muslims from government service and 20,000 of them were missing.

Taiwan Delegation Visits To Expand Market Ties

OW1603085993 Taipei CNA in English 0740 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Singapore, March 16 (CNA)—A trade delegation representing 15 Taiwan firms left here Monday [15 March] for Burma to seek business opportunities in the one of the few "untapped" markets left in the world. Liu Hsi-wei, leader of the delegation, opined that in terms of natural resources, Burma is every bit as good as Vietnam, which used to be described as the last "virgin land" of investment in Indochina. Besides, he added, businessmen from Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and Western countries have one after another jumped on the bandwagon of making ventures in Vietnam over the past one or two years, thus highlighting the significance of Burma as the next destination for investment exploration.

"Burma should be the last genuine 'untapped' market in Indochina," said Liu, director of both the Singapore and Vietnam offices of the semi-official China External Trade Development Council [CETRA]. CETRA for the first time sent a fact-finding mission to Burma in September, 1991. After observing the regime for more than one and a half years, CETRA now believes that the Southeast Asian country has ample market potential.

Burma is worthy of development, though two-way trade between the Republic of China [ROC] and Burma totaled a mere US\$21 million in 1991, CETRA concluded. Burma occupies land of 676,000 kilometers and has a population of 42 million. Timber and agricultural products are Taiwan's major import items from Burma while textiles, sportswear and fertilizers are the main exports. Burma was rated as an undeveloped country by the United Nations before 1987. Then the military seized power, nullified the socialist political and economic system, and enacted new investment rules to attract badly needed foreign capital.

The Burmese military Government in 1988 began opening the door to foreign investors in the hope of developing the nation's rich natural resources and manpower and bringing in industrial expertise. Since then incentives have been adopted to promote external trade. Nevertheless, a number of trade barriers still exist, CETRA warned. For instance, politics will on occasion intrude upon economic activities, already baffled by an inefficient banking system and poor infrastructure, CETRA pointed out. "But how can we win business opportunities without taking risks?" Liu asked.

While in Rangoon, the delegation will visit government officials and business leaders as well as host seminars to seek possible investment and trade opportunities.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Draft Constitutional Amendment Bill Hailed

BK1603131393 Kuala Lumpur *BERITA HARIAN* in Malay 12 Mar 93 p 10

[Editorial: "Strengthening the Doctrine of Parliamentary Democracy"]

[Text] The House of Representatives and the Senate have passed the Draft Constitutional Amendment Bill 1993, thus officially ending the dispute between the rulers and people. Any unofficial dispute that may arise later will be a normal aftermath. Such an aftermath will be normal in any crisis pertaining to principles, philosophy, or ideology. A collision between old and new cultures has led to a crisis. The issue of constitutional amendments is an example. As Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba hopes, the democratic system in Malaysia will be further strengthened following the conclusion of this event. This will further strengthen the division of powers among the legislative branch, executive branch, judiciary, and the "check and balance" [preceding three words in English] system.

In any political entity, there definitely exists disputes and differences of opinion on a policy implemented by the majority leader. Obviously, democracy serves as a bridge between the people and government and subsequently between the rulers and people more informally [as published]. The strength of the democratic system depends on a belief in fundamentals covering the right to vote, freedom of expression, and universal human relations. Voting is implemented on a "one man, one vote" basis either in an election or in the process of making laws in parliament. Democracy is fairly and regularly practiced in Malaysia without being overshadowed by dictatorial elements despite allegations by certain groups. That is why the prime minister is entitled to only vote just like anyone else despite holding the highest [executive] position. The Malaysian Government is different from a dictatorial government which does not believe in a division of powers to make and implement laws and supervise their implementation. All are controlled by one hand, one authority.

We in Malaysia are fortunate because the people are so confident in the concept accepted as the highest institution. The people have confidence in the concept because it allows human beings to freely live their lives and conduct administrative duties. Security is under control although Semangat 46 [Spirit of 46 Party] and PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party] have campaigned to discredit the government by using feudalistic sentiments in connection with the issue of constitutional amendments. This is the secret of the strength of the federal Constitution that guarantees political stability. The country would collapse if the foundation of its Constitution were weak. In politics, we believe that any crisis in a country

will be settled no matter how serious it may be if the country is politically stable. Malaysia has political stability because UMNO [United Malays National Organization] is the core of the National Front. This must be recognized.

What are the physical and psychological effects of the constitutional amendments? Obviously, a new political attitude and a subculture have grown among the people within the context of their relationship with the palace. This is comparable to a change in the political pattern of a country. Malaysia is no exception. In the past, the country's political pattern was feudalistic and some groups recognized the authority of local chieftains. However, the country is now in the early stages of democracy or limited democracy. It is too early for us to determine the country's political pattern in the future. Every country in the world has undergone changes pursuant to their respective political patterns. Malaysia had to be prepared for a possible sudden political change by amending the Constitution to ensure that the institution of monarchy would be preserved.

Thus, although the rulers no longer have full legal immunity, we are confident that the institution of monarchy will continue to be preserved because resentment against the rulers is diminishing. We are confident that the establishment of special courts for the rulers will discipline the rulers so that they will not commit acts that anger the people.

Singapore

Business Invests in PRC 'Nontraditional' Areas

BK1703065193 Singapore *THE STRAITS TIMES* in English 16 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] Singapore businessmen have become more interested in the less exploited northern and inland areas of China, unlike in the past when they placed most of their investments in the two southern coastal provinces of Guangzhou and Fujian.

For example, just five of the 15 projects announced so far this year will be in Guangdong, China's most prosperous province, or Fujian where many Chinese Singaporeans originated from. The two provinces were also the first beneficiaries of China's open-door policy.

The remaining 10 projects are spread across regions as diverse as Yunnan, which is on the Vietnamese border in the south, Sichuan in the west, and Beijing in the north.

In contrast, Guangzhou and Fujian accounted for more than half of the 28 investment projects in China mentioned in the English media last year. Moreover, investments in the two projects were generally much larger than those in the other parts of China.

The two provinces in fact accounted for about 80 per cent of the cumulative Singapore investments in China, according to official Chinese statistics released towards the end of last year.

Investments in "non-traditional" locations so far this year include China Palace Restaurant's commitment to invest an initial [Singapore dollars] \$30 million to develop a "food city" in Mianyang city in Sichuan, and Sesdaq-listed Pan Pacific Publications' plans to pump \$1.5 million into various projects such as tourism in Yunnan.

Of these investments, the largest is a US\$108-million (\$176.04-million) project by Best Wide Development which is heading a local consortium to build a steel mill and a chemicals plant in Hebei.

When ready in about two years, the plants will supply the domestic as well as the export market.

Explaining the move towards "less traditional areas", Mr Wang An Fook managing director of Milcom Engineering, said one attraction of moving north was the relative lack of competition. Milcom is one of the five companies in the Best Wide consortium.

"A lot of Taiwanese and Hong Kong businessmen are already well established in Guangzhou and Fujian. This leaves little room for Singapore businessmen," he said.

A partner at law firm Chor Pee Co, which provides advice to Singapore companies in China, said another reason for investments migrating to other parts of China was the opening of new industrial zones in Shanghai and other areas.

Confirming the trend towards investing in non-traditional areas, Mr Chary Mah, a partner with accounting firm Deloitte Touche said: "We have seen some of our clients move away from the older special economic zones into new areas, in many cases in co-operation with the provincial governments there."

Although five of the company's local clients had expressed interest in setting up operations in China since the beginning of the year, none had indicated Guangzhou or Fujian as the choice, he said.

Companies are more likely to get more attractive concessions such as low-cost prime land from provincial governments, he added, when asked to explain the attractiveness of China's inland and northern provinces.

Mr Steven Lim, managing partner of Arthur Andersen & Co, said the less-developed areas of China offered "more exciting prospects" for Singapore companies interested in infrastructure development.

Negotiating with prospective partners in the interior was also easier and less time-consuming, unlike two years ago, because Chinese companies were now quite familiar with free market transactions.

Mr Lim estimated that about 70 per cent of new investors in China were looking at areas other than Guangzhou Fujian, and the Pudong/Shanghai region.

Major Singapore Investments in China 1992 and 1993 (excluding Guangzhou and Fujian Provinces)

Company/Investment	Amount	Place
SUNTEC INVESTMENTS/Cement plant	U.S.\$30 million	Suzhou
SUNTEC INVESTMENTS/Property	U.S.\$10 million	Suzhou
WUTHELM/Plants	U.S. \$11 million	Shanghai
METRO HOLDINGS/Public Housing	U.S. \$35 million	Shanghai
NTUC [National Trades Union Congress]/Supermarkets	Not Stated	Beijing
NTUC/Taxi companies	Not Stated	Shanghai
STRAITS STEAMSHIP LAND/Resort/Golf Course	U.S.\$40 million	Yunnan
BEST WIDE/Steel and chemicals	U.S \$108 million	Hebei
CHINA PALACE RESTAURANT/Food City	U.S.\$30 million	Sichuan
SATS [Singapore Airline Terminal Services]/Airport Kitchen	U.S. \$2.7 million	Beijing

Joint Exercise Conducted With Indian Navy

BK1303030893 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Mar 93 p 3

[Text] The navies of Singapore and India recently conducted a one-day exercise in Indian waters.

Called Passex, the Feb. 12 exercise was part of a four-day visit to Port Blair by two Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) ships—the missile corvette RSS [Republic of Singapore Ship] Valour and missile gunboat RSS Sea Lion.

Port Blair is the major port in the Indian territory of the Andaman/Nicobar Islands which are off the Bay of Bengal.

Passex involved navigation training, plotting, and seamanship and manoeuvring serials, the Mindef [Ministry of Defense] publication PIONEER reported in its latest issue.

The Indian naval ships which took part were the frigate class INS [Indian Naval Ship] Anjadip and the corvette class INS Kirpan.

Pioneer said that the RSN's port call from Feb. 10 to 14 was one of its goodwill visits to the ports of several countries.

RSN personnel paid courtesy calls on senior officers of the Indian Navy who also went on board the RSS Valour.

The Indian Navy hosted a cocktail and dinner for the RSN personnel.

During their port call, RSN officers and men also visited places of interest and played a friendly soccer match with their Indian counterparts.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Ready To Launch 'Crusade,' Save Country

BK1703101893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1003 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Bangkok, March 17 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Wednesday he was prepared to assume Cambodia's leadership in the event that the country was plunged into chaos following upcoming U.N.-organised elections.

In a statement released by his office here the prince, seen both at home and internationally as Cambodia's most respected leader, said he was to "retire" from his current position as chairman as Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) after the elections which are slated for late May.

"But, if things become too bad in Cambodia by the end of 1993, I do not rule out launching a 'Second Crusade' in order to salvage the sinking Kampuchea (Cambodia) ship," said the 70-year-old prince, who is currently staying in Beijing.

Forty years ago, Prince Sihanouk described as a "crusade" the successful campaign he launched to win independence from France and become the Southeast Asian country's undisputed leader until he was toppled in a 1970 coup.

His "second crusade," he said, would be aimed at leading "society's dynamic and popular forces towards the restoration of a fully independent Cambodia, genuinely neutral and non-aligned, reunified, that is undivided by any kind of partition."

The radical Marxist Khmer Rouge has broken away from Cambodia's peace process and refused to take part in the elections which, in keeping with a late 1991 international accord, are to be supervised by the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

This has raised the threat of a partition of the country as the Khmer Rouge guerrilla force, the strongest to fight Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government during the Cambodia war which was formally ended with the 1991 peace treaty, controls areas along Cambodia's border with Thailand.

The Khmer Rouge boycott and widespread acts of violence and intimidation which have wrecked the peace process, have also led to fears that Cambodia could slide into anarchy after the election.

Sihanouk Warns of Khmer Rouge Battlefield Prowess

BK1603135493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Bangkok, March 16 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk has warned that Cambodia's Khmer Rouge insurgency can only be settled politically with the ultimate formation of a government of national reconciliation including representatives of the radical Marxist group.

The stance by the prince, head of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), came a little over two months ahead of U.N.-organised elections in the war-ravaged country, which the Khmer Rouge have decided to boycott.

It was contained in statements Monday and Tuesday by the 70-year-old prince, which were released by his office in the Thai capital.

"Someday, people with good sense will recognise the necessity of a government of national reconciliation including (representatives of the) Khmer Rouge," said Prince Sihanouk in his Monday statement.

"Come what may, no-one will succeed in wiping out the Khmer Rouge guerrilla force," the prince, who is currently in Beijing, said Tuesday.

The SNC is a reconciliation body formed under Cambodia's 1991 peace accord with representatives of both the Phnom Penh government and the Khmer Rouge as well as of two smaller non-communist guerrilla factions which also fought Phnom Penh during the Cambodia war.

But it has proved unable to bring about reconciliation and the United Nations-brokered peace process effectively collapsed last year when the Khmer Rouge rejected a crucial U.N. programme to disarm Cambodia's rival forces.

The Khmer Rouge, whose rule over Cambodia was ended in January 1979 by a Vietnamese invasion, has justified its boycott of the peace process with claims that Hanoi's troops remained deployed in the Southeast Asian country.

Hanoi insists that its forces have been completely withdrawn from Cambodia. The United Nations has identified a handful of Vietnamese people as "foreign forces" still on Cambodian soil, but its findings do not support Khmer Rouge claims of a large Vietnamese military presence.

The United Nations has decided to go ahead with elections in late May despite Khmer Rouge refusal to take part, although it has repeatedly said the door remained open for the Marxist group to rejoin the peace process at any time.

In his statements, Prince Sihanouk pointed out that the Khmer Rouge, whose fanatical near-four year rule over Cambodia resulted in the deaths of over a million in the country's "killing fields," had been left "really dying" following Vietnam's military intervention.

But, he continued, a number of countries presided over the group's "rebirth." Among them, he said, was not only China, the main Khmer Rouge ally in the Cambodia war, but countries such as the United States and Thailand.

This was a reference to Thailand's military assistance to anti-Phnom Penh guerrilla forces during the war. The United States, which aided non-communist anti-government guerrilla groups, has been accused of thus indirectly supporting the Khmer Rouge.

"The only reasonable policy to implement in order to save Kampuchea (Cambodia), inasmuch as that can be done, is to settle the Khmer Rouge problem by means other than military," Prince Sihanouk said.

VGNUFC Reports Sihanouk Interview With Magazine

BK1303082793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Report on interview with Prince Norodom Sihanouk by unidentified (BND) magazine correspondent; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] First question: Some foreign correspondents wrote that you want to become king again in Cambodia. Is this true?

The prince replied that at present there is still no agreement among the four Cambodian parties for Cambodia to become a kingdom like Britain or Thailand. However, some foreigners and Cambodians oppose the idea of Sihanouk becoming king and monopolizing power because these people are afraid that Sihanouk would conduct the same policy as the one in the Sangkum Reas Niyum [name of Sihanouk's former political party] era, that is a policy of too much nationalism, independence, and socialism. However, this problem has not arisen yet because all parties have many problems to solve.

Second question: What is your view on the decision by the UN Security Council [UNSC] to ensure success for the May 1993 elections and that for three months after that—June, July, and August—UNTAC will continue leading the new government and have full power, including over the zones controlled by Democratic Kampuchea [DK]?

The prince replied that teachers and those foreigners initiating this idea ought to be praised. However, I would like to remind them that their policy is being strongly denounced and criticized by many Cambodian nationalists in and outside the country. This policy will surely

further foment a situation of insecurity, instability, and national rift for which there is no cure because the UNSC has adopted the latest resolutions to recognize the government resulting from the May 1993 UNTAC elections and oppose those who want to revise and oppose this government.

We can guess that this government and UNTAC cannot fully control the situation at the end of 1993. In such a serious situation in Cambodia, Sihanouk's 1993 plan cannot be implemented because the United States, Britain, teachers, and other initiators have prevented Sihanouk from touching what they call democracy and a new regime, both of which have been established in Cambodia. Thus, if a war broke out—waged by DK and others who lost in the May 1993 elections to hold aloft the banner of national liberation struggle against Vietnam—nothing could save the nation because these people categorically oppose the establishment of a provisional national reconciliation government which includes DK.

In the place of Sihanouk's plan, teachers and foreign initiators have proposed the following measure in the form of money, weapons, and ammunition supplied to the government resulting from UNTAC elections to fight and win against DK. Blue beret troops will not be dispatched to die in the war with DK; Cambodians will be allowed to fight to the death and until Cambodia's demise. This is worrying because teachers and those initiating this political move again blame Cambodians for UNTAC's failure.

Third question: Who will win in next May elections?

The prince said that internal war will certainly break out. Vietnam could again intervene by sending troops to Cambodia because Phnom Penh will not hand over power to FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia].

Fourth Question: Do you think that the coming elections will be held in acceptable conditions?

The prince replied that the conditions are certainly not acceptable, but the UNSC and the UN Secretary General have forced us to accept as legitimate an assembly and a government resulting from the elections. The unacceptable conditions which we are forced to accept are elections held in a situation in which there is no neutral political atmosphere. It is a situation in which the following are present: insecurity, armed clashes, robbery, political terrorist activities, politically motivated murders, arrest of many persons working for political parties, the plunder of Cambodia's national resources, 4 million Cambodians suffering and becoming refugees in their own country, the struggle against Vietnam and against the election laws that allow Vietnamese to vote while excluding Cambodians abroad and Khmer Kraom [ethnic Cambodians living in an area now part of southern Vietnam], and various political parties having no equal rights.

Khmer Rouge Activities in Siem Reap Noted

*BK1603064893 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0415 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh 16 Mar (SPK)—On 4 March the Khmer Rouge fired several shells on some regions in Por and Kouk Thlork Leu communes, Chikreng district, Siem Reap Province. Two guerrillas sneaked into Tbeng village and killed two villagers there.

On the same day, Khmer Rouge soldiers planted mines in the sectors registered under coordinates 66,91,08, Ta Yay commune, Sot Nikum district, causing 11 to be wounded, three of them seriously.

On 5 March, at 1000, the insurgents fired 15 DK-75 shells on a sector registered under coordinates 62,33,16 in Pongro Leu commune.

It is to be recalled that on 2 March, at 1500, 40 to 50 polpotists from Division F-980 attacked a sector near an UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] post located in Angkrang village, Kantreang commune, Siem Reap district, and seized more than 7 million riels, two watches, and other goods from the local people.

Liberal Democratic Khmer Farmers Party Head Interviewed

*BK1503094593 Phnom Penh KAOH SANTEPHEAP
in Cambodian 9 Mar 93 p 1, 4*

[Text] Meas Boret and Chuop Sothea, representatives of KAOH SANTEPHEAP, interviewed Mr. Pon Pisit, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Khmer Farmers Party, on 5 March.

Before articulating the main political stands of the party, the chairman stressed that his Farmers Party was founded on 17 September 1988 in Site 2 Camp at the Dangrek mountain range along the Thai border. On 4 January 1992 the camp supervisor put the party chairman in jail, thus scattering all party members. On 4 June 1992 some of his party members reassembled and staged a demonstration which led to the release of the party chairman from prison.

The chairman stressed that his party does not get aid from anybody or any overseas sources. Neither does it contract debt to nor borrow money from anyone in order to play politics.

Concerning the principal objectives of the party, the chairman said that his party wants to unite Cambodian people from all circles both at home and abroad in search of a formula for national reconstruction.

Party Paper Hails Latest UNSC Cambodia Resolution

*BK1303091593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT
12 Mar 93*

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "Another Important Resolution of the United Nations for Cambodia"]

[Text] Recently the UN Security Council unanimously adopted the plan for the elections in Cambodia next May as scheduled, although the Khmer Rouge have refused to take part in these elections. This is another most important resolution. It constitutes a great encouragement for the various Cambodian factions that have implemented and are implementing the Paris peace agreement, especially the faction of the State of Cambodia [SOC].

Since the signing of the Paris peace agreement, the SOC faction has made all-out efforts, with maximum self-restraint, to propel the agreement's implementation toward the final stage of holding general elections and creating a new government under a single law. We consider this an opportunity for the Cambodian people, a chance for them to have peace and to develop the nation. We must not allow this most precious opportunity to slip away.

However, some Cambodian parties, some Cambodian factions, especially the Khmer Rouge, have created and are creating one obstacle after another in a bid to completely destroy the process of implementing the Paris peace agreement. In the political field, they continue to raise the Vietnamese presence issue and have decided to boycott the elections. In the military field, they have launched and are launching attacks to undermine the preparations for the elections. In addition to these political and military tactics, they have also worked hard to trouble and poison the atmosphere in society.

In such a situation, the latest resolution passed by the UN Security Council to support the process of general elections in Cambodia next May is of the greatest significance to the Cambodian people, whose wish is to see these elections take place. So that these elections can be a reality in accordance with the agreement, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] can only be the driving force and play the principal role so that all resolutions of the UN Security Council are actually implemented.

The time from now to the elections days is very short. UNTAC should clearly classify the problems prevailing in the current period of transition, putting those that should be tackled immediately apart from those that need to be settled by the future Cambodian Government, such as the complex racial problem, which needs some time to solve and which should not be tackled during this short transitional period, for it could only slow down and even stall the process of the agreement's implementation and thereby obstruct the whole peace process—something that the Khmer Rouge are trying to achieve at the present.

All acts and ideas that may lead toward the undermining of free and fair elections should never be encouraged. On the contrary, full support should be given to any effort that would enable the upcoming elections to proceed smoothly in response to the aspiration and hope of the Cambodian people.

Paper Decrees Code of Conduct for Election Campaign

BK1503095393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 14 Mar 93

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Everything Is for the Success of the Elections of Our Constituent Assembly"; date not given]

[Text] At its recent internal meeting, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] discussed and unanimously agreed on the evaluation of the situation concerning preparations for the general elections in line with the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

The forum agreed on the communique concerning the CPP's principles. At the same time, the forum took note that in the implementation of the Paris agreement, the CPP took the lead in correctly implementing the agreement—the peace process—while the Khmer Rouge violated it and committed on a daily basis destructive acts against the people. Meanwhile, the political parties which have formed an alliance with the genocidal clique have resorted to both open and secret activities.

It is noteworthy that in some cases, they used secret forces to cause terrorism and blamed us for the non-existence of a neutral political atmosphere.

Another point that should be noted is the scheme to divide duties between the Khmer Rouge, which mainly carry out military activities, and their allied political parties which mainly carry out political activities. To co-opt other forces, they employ demagoguery and false promises to give them ranks, positions, jobs, and money. They also claim to be a new breed of people, to be liberals with high ideals, to be anxious about people's weal and woe, and to be patriots enjoying the support of the superpowers.

They then went back on those statements of demagoguery and false promises, thus causing internal rifts and assassinations, and accused the State of Cambodia [SOC]—the host—of causing political terrorism.

Looking through all these activities, we can see that the strategic schemes of the opposition forces have not changed and the future of our Cambodia's peace is unclear due to the Khmer Rouge—the party which does not respect the agreement—who are supported by their allies.

The CPP holds that the upcoming election of the constituent assembly is very important to the survival of the CPP and the people.

The CPP, which has over 2 million members, must continue to build its forces and organize, supervise, and enhance the quality of its members. All these are the CPP's main tasks.

The CPP has a tradition of sharing weal and woe with the people. It liberated the people from the genocidal regime. In the past more than 14 years, it has always stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the people in restoring, building, defending, and reviving the country in all aspects. We have raced against the destruction caused by the Khmer Rouge and their allies and have scored many achievements beyond expectation as it is today.

In the current most difficult period, after setting up their joint offices, various political parties have blocked all international aid, thus adding a heavier burden on the CPP and SOC government.

The CPP has been pooling all its mental, physical, and intellectual strength to cope with all-round situation. It has strived bravely to settle all disasters and difficulties.

It is imperative for all of us to attentively and effectively respond to the proper requests of the people. At the same time, the authorities and sectors concerned should take a decisive stand in resolving and eradicating to the maximum all nasty acts, such as putting up checkpoints to search, harass, and extort money from passengers on roads and waterways; setting up gambling dens; and the practice by a number of our officials and personnel of accepting bribes.

During the coming electoral campaign, it is imperative to grasp the principles for campaigning and then implement them correctly. Meanwhile, it is imperative to inspect, monitor, and lodge protests against the campaign of any party which runs counter to the common principles.

We will continue to implement our great national union policy. Any alliance requires mutual sincerity and a clear principle.

We will give good cooperation to UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in the election process and in checking Khmer Rouge's schemes to destroy the elections and their backers' attempt to boycott the elections.

The most important point is that we will implement the circulars of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and Council of Ministers on the defense of a neutral political atmosphere. This is our party's good-willed stand in participating in democratic elections. We will use all legal means to make the people who support our party understand the electoral regulations, create favorable conditions for all the people to vote, and avoid any misunderstanding, deceitful propaganda, or threat by various political parties.

Paper Foresees Future Coalition Troubles

*BK1603095193 Phnom Penh KAOH SANTEPHEAP
in Cambodian 12 Mar 93 pp 1, 4*

[From "Today's Comment" column by Thlang Ambal:
"Watch out for the Evil Spirits in the New Government"]

[Text] The political attitude of the 20 parties which have been publicly "strutting about" has laid bare their "innards" that may cause worries to the Cambodian nation again.

We decided to analyze the political "attitude" of some "potent" politicians in order to help our people make up their minds about the future of political parties that we will very soon have to choose.

The [Cambodian] People's Party has publicly announced that if it wins the election, it will invite personalities from all parties to join the new government so they can share in the leadership and reconstruction of the country. Such a political attitude shows a great deal of "flexibility" and it is a "political attitude" that is tailored for peace.

If the People's Party does win the election, a number of parties that are bereft of any record of struggle or deprived of any Thai backing may surely be more than ready to join it because the intellectuals in these parties do not want to make war; they only want to help rebuild the nation.

As for the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, the party of Old Man Son Sann, and the faction of Khieu Samphan, they surely will not join it. And surely they will pull out and prepare conditions to beat one another in this "pull-out" stampede.

We dare predict this because we know that these factions have already consolidated their positions in the west of the country and are prepared to proclaim their respective "country" there.

Other possibilities exist, though: If the FUNCINPEC Party wins, other parties will join it, particularly its "partners," such as the party of Old Man Son Sann and the Khieu Samphan faction of Democratic Kampuchea. And possibly there may even be the secret participation of Ieng Sary, Salot Sar, Son Sen, and so on.

There is still another scenario: If the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party—also known as Old Man Son Sann's party—wins the elections, one can be certain that the FUNCINPEC Party, then Mr. Khieu Samphan, and later the other important big shots of Democratic Kampuchea will "share weal and woe" with it.

As for the People's Party of Mr. Chea Sim, after close scrutiny, we can see that it will not "join" all these parties. And it will not be "included" because in the past the People's Party had invited those bigwigs to join it, but these "party leaders" arrogantly turned the offer

down. Therefore, can we believe the People's Party to be so "insensitive" as to accept joining them? Consequently, the war will go on.

One should understand that most of the other parties that seem "flexible" and prefer the use of "words" because they do not like to use or "have no ability" to use arms, will agree to join at the request of the "winner." If they refuse, only one choice will remain for them: go back abroad to where they have come from.

Therefore, as a "final" result, if the resistance side "wins," the ruling side must "lose." And it will not "lose just a little," but it will "lose a lot."

On the contrary, if the ruling faction "wins," it will still "lose" all the same because the northern [as received] territory will then become a "state" and it will not be easy to "wrest" it back.

This prediction by the oracle of KAOH SANTEPHEAP should permit the readers to judge for themselves which party they should vote for in order to end the misery of the nation.

However, 99 percent of the Khmer people will never allow the leaders—at whatever level—of Democratic Kampuchea to secretly infiltrate the elected government.

Indonesia

Suharto To Announce New Cabinet 17 Mar

*BK1603151493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0946 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Jakarta, March 16 (AFP)—Indonesian President Suharto is to announce his new cabinet March 17 for the next five year term, State Secretary Mardiono said here Tuesday. Suharto's new cabinet lineup will be announced by Suharto, accompanied by Vice President Try Sutrisno, at the Merdeka palace early Wednesday evening, Mardiono said, adding the new cabinet will be sworn in on Friday. An 11-day meeting of the national congress last week elected and took the oath of office from Suharto and Try, who were the only candidates for the country's two top slots for a five year term to end in March 1998.

Daily Welcomes Suharto's Reelection as President

*BK1703123893 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in
English 12 Mar 93 p 2*

[Editorial: "6th Term for Father of National Development"]

[Text] The Indonesian state and nation hails Suharto's election as president of the republic for the sixth consecutive term. Indeed, it would be unthinkable at this juncture for the Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat [People's Consultative Assembly] or MPR not to pass the

decree reinstating the Father of Indonesian Development as president and head of the government for the next five years.

The decree electing President Suharto promulgated yesterday fully conforms with the general will of the Indonesian people as delegated to or represented by the August assembly. That will has been made clear and certain by countless declarations and appeals delivered months ago and just before MPR convened and constitutionally pursued during the assembly by the five factions [sentence as published].

It is equally appropriate that we take this opportunity to acclaim the election of the new vice president, Try Sutrisno. As a post-1945 cadre, his ascendancy to the second highest political job in the state is especially profound and strategic as the nation prepares to enter the second long-term development era.

There might be a few negative voices unreported in the media, particularly from those who stood responsibly and with honest conviction by their different set of principles and criteria for electing the president and vice president as well as for setting the course of nation building. But it is now time for all of us to leave behind the differences of the recent past in a true democratic fashion and to further the consolidation of the unity and oneness of our nation-state.

A principal issue that has already started to be discussed in the last few days pertains to the operationalisation of the presidency that we wish or hope to see from now on. It can be said that the new term is the president's ultimate challenge and test in statemanship and leadership.

We the people, united and one and prospering, definitely want him to succeed. This was not the case in the last years of the Sukarno presidency which witnessed intrigue, confusion, corruption, disunity, decline.

President Suharto's top priority will be the central government or cabinet itself, his team of assistants that will do the detailed work for him. In terms of substance, the general principles on government-people relationship—integrity, confidence-building, openness, transparency, and the like—are already more or less accepted as a national consensus and commitment.

But, what is even more imperative in the months and years to come will be the president's wisdom and tenacity not only in leading and governing the nation as a whole, but specifically to guide and refine the future leaders of the republic from Vice President Try Sutrisno down to others of the post-1945 generation and not only those in Jakarta but other national centers outside the capital. The younger generation certainly needs to learn continuously to reinforce national unity, solidarity, and justice, to foster national discipline, hard work, other than to attain material achievements, progress, etc., and then itself prepare the next caderisation [as published] programme.

This aspect of the task of Pak Harto [Mr. Suharto] as president might seem an odd proposition, but the decline and disintegration of nations in other parts of our world subsequent to a leadership transfer is clearly no joking matter. There must be a proper balance between philosophical, moral, and political development on the one hand and economic and technological advancement on the other.

It is indeed a huge demand for our almost 72-year-old president whose national and international duties are already enormous. But, God willing, he can do it.

Governor Discusses Human Rights in East Timor

BK1603055793 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 25 Feb 93 p 11

[“Excerpts” of a “Special Interview” with East Timor Governor Abilio Jose Osorio Soares by a SUARA PEMBARUAN correspondent in Dili on 24 February]

[Text] [SUARA PEMBARUAN] Of late, foreign governments have been discussing the human rights issue in East Timor. What is your comment?

[Abilio Osorio] I think every country has its own law and order. They cannot make a general interpretation of human rights violations in Europe and apply them in Indonesia too. Our philosophy of life is different from that of the Europeans. Our culture and way of life is different from that of the West. Therefore, in my opinion, Indonesia pays serious attention to human rights order in handling East Timor problems. For example, the trial of Xanana Gusmao is proof that human rights are not violated. Xanana is not treated just anyhow, instead his trial is carried out based on existing legal regulations in Indonesia.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] What do you expect to gain from the ongoing human rights conference in Geneva?

[Abilio Osorio] I would like to stress again that human rights is well observed in Indonesia and it has been popularly practiced in East Timor. I think the conference in Geneva is very good because representatives from Indonesia, who are natives of East Timor, are also attending. People will react positively to the presence of the East Timorese representatives at the international conference. This is because people feel that their problem is being discussed by their representatives at the international conference.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Will the outcome of the conference influence the behavior of the people of East Timor?

[Abilio Osorio] The outcome of the conference will be a great influence on people because the people will know that what is being said against Indonesia at the conference is not true. The outcome of the conference will change the people's attitude and they will think more positively about the Indonesian Government. This has

become apparent of late. The people are now busy working to improve their living standard.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Do you think many participants at the conference will ask about about Xanana's trial?

[Abilio Osorio] I am confident that Xanana's trial will be mentioned at the conference. But as far as we are concerned, we can prove again at the conference and to foreign governments that Indonesia is aware of and knows what human rights are. The West need not teach us. Indonesia was once colonized so we know exactly what human rights are all about. I am sure that the Indonesian team is ready to explain to those who had been pretending not to know about the existence of human rights practices in Indonesia.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] In the past, East Timor representatives to attend the conference were selected from among those East Timor natives living in Jakarta. This time around, the representative was sent directly from East Timor.

[Abilio Osorio] Yes, that is right. The decision was reached after I had an audience with the foreign minister in Jakarta following my appointment as governor of East Timor. At that time, I suggested that East Timor people should participate directly in all overseas' conferences connected with the East Timor issue.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Does that mean East Timor representatives should also attend the UN General Assembly when it discusses East Timor's political issues?

[Abilio Osorio] I did suggest that the foreign minister allow East Timor people to speak directly at UN political forums on East Timor. I want the East Timor representatives to participate and speak for themselves at the tripartite meeting in Rome. The presence of an East Timorese at every meeting overseas means that the East Timor native is not representing East Timor province only, but he is the representative from Indonesia.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Did you adopt the idea of producing young diplomat cadres from East Timor?

[Abilio Osorio] The idea was implemented by former Governor Mario Carrascalao and I shall continue with it. This is because I feel that it is an important and strategic program, not for East Timor alone, but for the Indonesian nation.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Almost every day you receive local people at your office. What is the main problem they voice?

[Abilio Osorio] It is part of my duty to listen to the people's grouses. Both parties benefit from the meetings at my office. Normally, the people will air their grievances over a bureaucratic system which is not working efficiently. But sometimes I notice that the people are so lacking in information that I have to make

suggestions to them. For example, sometimes they complain that the subdistrict chief is not paying attention to the needs of the villagers. Then I ask them if they had written complaint letters to the lowest officials or to the higher ones. They will understand what I mean after some time. Apart from that, I receive people who come to contribute input on administrative, development, and social affairs so that I and other civil servants can perform our duties based on the input received.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Did you ever come across people who discuss politics?

[Abilio Osorio] They are not discussing political affairs yet, they are only interested in getting a better life.

[SUARA PEMBARUAN] Perhaps you have something to say to the East Timor people now that the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] plenary session is approaching.

[Abilio Osorio] Now that we already have central representatives and regional representatives factions in the MPR general assembly, surely, I would like to call on all the people to place their trust in their representatives. Whatever resolutions are adopted at the general assembly will definitely be the best for the nation and the people.

Military To Close Special East Timor Command

*BK1503152893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1308 GMT
15 Mar 93*

[By Pascal Mallet]

[Text] Jakarta, March 15 (AFP)—A high-ranking Indonesian official said Monday his country had been treated unfairly in a U.N. Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) resolution slamming Indonesia's record in East Timor, as the military announced plans to close a special military command there.

"We have been treated unfairly by the commission," said Wiryono Sastrohandoyo, policy director at Indonesia's foreign affairs ministry, adding that Indonesia found the resolution "unfair in its content and harsh in its language."

In Geneva last Thursday, the U.N. body adopted a resolution condemning Indonesia for human rights abuses in East Timor, saying it was deeply troubled about continuing violations.

In a related development, the Indonesian military said it was taking steps toward disbanding its special command in East Timor.

Major General Suwardi, who heads the Bali-based Udayana Military Command that oversees security in East Timor, said preparations were under way to wind up East Timor's Military Operational Command, set up in 1989. He did not say, however, when the command

would stop operating in the former Portuguese colony, whose control by Indonesia is still not recognized by the United Nations.

If carried out the move would leave security arrangements in East Timor on a par with those in the country's other provinces. The Indonesian military has said the operational command will be disbanded when the fighting troops in East Timor have all been replaced by territorial units.

The UNHCR resolution, supported by 22 countries with only 12 opposed, also expressed "concern at the lack of information about the number of people killed" when the Indonesian army opened fire on a crowd of pro-independence demonstrators in Dili, the East Timor capital, in November 1991. Wiryo, however, said it was "illogical" that the U.N.'s statement on Indonesia had been more severe this year than in 1992.

Last year, the commission did not condemn Indonesia in a resolution but chose instead to express its concerns in a chairman's declaration, "which is of less magnitude than a resolution," Wiryo said.

Wiryo said Indonesia had acceded to most of the demands in the commission's 1992 declaration, adding that last week's commission debate centred on the simple procedural question of Indonesia's refusal to accept a deadline for the next visit of the special envoy on torture. Nevertheless, he said Jakarta was prepared to receive the U.N.'s new envoy once the position had been filled.

The former envoy, Peter Kooymans of the Netherlands, was in Dili at the time of the massacre. He is now the Dutch foreign minister.

Indonesia invaded East Timor in late 1975 after Portugal withdrew as a colonial power. Jakarta unilaterally declared the territory its 27th province in 1976, but the United Nations does not recognize Indonesian sovereignty and still considers Portugal to be the administrative power in the territory.

Prior to last week's U.N. move, Indonesia had not been the target of such a resolution since the mid-1980s. At that time, there was persistent fighting between Indonesian forces and pro-independence guerrillas in East Timor.

Wiryo also said it was unfortunate that Portugal was trying to "gain points" on the diplomatic scene instead of looking for an "acceptable solution" to the East Timor question. On April 20, the Portuguese and Indonesian foreign ministers are to meet in Rome to continue their talks under the auspices of the U.N. secretary general.

Official Hopes for Better Relations With Australia

BK1603052993 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0356 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Jakarta, March 16 (OANA/ANTARA)—A parliamentary leader said here on Monday he hoped Prime Minister Paul Keating could create better relations with Indonesia.

Under his statesmanship we are hoping for the creation of more realistic and mutually beneficial relations in political and more particularly in economic relations, said B.N. Marbun, the deputy chairman of the House Commission I.

We are also hoping for his pioneership in developing more prospective long-term cooperation including in the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), the deputy chairman of the commission in charge of foreign, information, security and defense affairs said.

Paul Keating's victory in the recent elections reflected Australia's positive political view towards Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia, he said.

Keating may just continue and materialize it more concretely especially in connection with economic cooperation and Indonesia-Australia solidarity, he said.

He said the hope was reasonable in line with the tradition Keating's Labour Party which is relatively more open and dynamic towards Southeast Asia than the conservative. [sentence as received]

In continuation of the political view Marbun said it was necessary to continue and further seek cooperative relations between the two countries.

He said he did not see any sheer obstacles in the present relations between the two countries.

He said he expected the question of the East Timor gap which has already been put under bilateral agreement could further increase Australia's solidarity in confirming its recognition of East Timor as a part of Indonesia.

Marbun said he expected Indonesia could export more manufacturing and half-made products and raw materials to Australia in exchange of Australia's increased technology transfer.

The parliamentary leader saw Australian inclination to separate from the Commonwealth as efforts of that country to get closer to its closest neighbours, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.

He said Australia should not fear Indonesia because this country has never adopted any policies that cause threats to Australia even in its 1945 Constitution.

Marbun saw the significance of improving relations between the two countries' mass media through more

intensive exchange of visits to wipe out possible misunderstanding as a result of their observation over the two countries' relations.

Editorial Views Nation's Economic Challenges

BK1603093093 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 4 Mar 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Our Economic Challenges"]

[Text] A significant portion of President Suharto's report of accountability to the highest legislative body, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), early this week was devoted to economic development, the top priority of the government since 1967. But since the nation is now at the threshold of its second long-term (25 year) development stage, beginning in April, 1994, the report covers not only his fifth consecutive five-year term (1988-1993) but also traces back the process of economic development and the progress achieved since 1969 when the government embarked on the first five year development plan.

Most of the points raised in the report actually are not entirely new to us because they were explained in the President's annual National Day address in mid-August and his budgetary speech given in the first week of January, each supplemented with a bulky report on all aspects of the nation's development.

What is remarkable is that the report of accountability strongly reaffirms the government's fundamental approaches on economic development based on three main principles—stability, equity and growth. The scale of priority of these three principles are periodically rearranged in line with the most pressing problems being encountered.

Many international agencies and foreign government creditors have often praised the government's macro-economic management and cited several of its successful programs as models for other developing countries. President Suharto himself has received international awards for the government's successes in a number of sectors, such as rice production and family planning.

This does not, however, mean that the nation's development process has not seen a fair share of mistakes and inconsistency especially over the past five years of the President's fifth term which is currently under assessment by the MPR. President Suharto himself magnanimously admitted such shortcomings in his report to MPR.

The most obvious problems, which also have often been pointed out by international development agencies and government creditors, though in various subtle manners, are the tendency toward increasing microeconomic distortions, the persistently high incidence of malfeasance within the state bureaucracy and the lack of determination to decentralize economic decision making authority and shift it to provincial and regency administrations.

The distortions have been caused by inconsistency with regard to the application of the market economy, the inadequate transparency in which the government allocates resources through its annual budget, the inadequate public accountability of state companies and the extreme lack of rules regarding fair market competition.

A larger number of domestic and foreign investors have begun complaining about the increasingly high costs of doing business in the country due to the combination of incompetence and corrupt mentality on the part of a number of officials, the very costly entry into particular business areas and the mounting practices of monopoly or oligopoly in the supplies of various goods and services.

What is really worrisome is the fact that the political will does not seem to be strong enough to reduce such distortions. Instead, such anomalies tend to increase in various forms, through various questionable deals between state companies and particular business groups. Such distortions, if not curbed, will eventually erode the effectiveness of the excellent macro-economic policies because the health and stability of the economy is ultimately determined by the performance of its various sectors and the individual business entities in each sector. Those distortions will also worsen the inequality in the distribution of incomes among the various segments of society and consequently upset the overall stability—the main foundation of our development.

Now that the entire nation has again thrown its all-out support behind Suharto through his renomination by the MPR for a sixth consecutive term, it is, we think, the duty and responsibility of the highest legislative body to warn him early on against the likely dangers, pitfalls and entrapments ahead that might undo all we have achieved under his leadership so far. Given the high quality of his statesmanship, leadership and his great concern for the welfare and safety of the nation, we are convinced that Suharto will magnanimously welcome all wise advice, and every note of caution as he has always humbly accepted the showers of praise for his great successes over the past 25 years.

Investment Board Lists Approved Projects

BK1603091393 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 3 Mar 93 p 8

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) approved 68 new investment projects with total commitments of around US\$924.24 million in the period between January 16 and February 15. The value of these investments dropped sharply from around \$1.2 billion pledged during the period between December 1 and January 15. BKPM said in its monthly report that the value of foreign investments reached around \$329.12 million in the period between January 16 and February 15, comprising of 14 new ventures and seven expansion projects.

The new investment projects include: —A \$110 million automotive plant operated by PT [Company Limited] General Motors Buana Indonesia in West Java.

—A \$5.7 million forwarding equipment plant operated by PT Fujitre Batam in Riau province.

—A \$8.05 million radio pager service for Central Java, Yogyakarta, East Java and North Sumatera run by PT Skytelindo Services.

—A \$52.01 million condominium project run by PT Batamindo Executive Village in Riau province.

—A \$11.63 million biscuit factory operated by PT Ubindo Aneka Biskuit in West Java.

The foreign expansion projects include: —An \$8 million spinning, embroidery and weaving factory operated by PT Lotus Indah Textile in East Java.

—A \$7 million footwear factory operated by PT Flower Indonesia in East Java.

—A \$7.7 million food factory run by PT Indofood Frito-Lay Corporation in West Java.

—A \$39.4 million textile plant operated by PT Yasam Textiles in West Java.

—An \$8 million soap factory run by PT Cussons Indonesia in West Java.

The domestic investments, which account for around 60 percent of the total investment commitments, consist of 44 new industrial companies and 17 expansion projects. They include: —A Rp [Rupiah] 14 billion plastic factory operated by PT Mussimas Sejahtera Abadi.

—A Rp 11 billion metal can factory run by PT Lampung Asri Indah in Lampung.

—A Rp 12.2 billion tissue factory operated by PT Astra Multi Sales in West Java.

—A Rp 100.8 billion oil palm estate and refinery plant run by PT Perdana Inti Sawit in Riau.

—A Rp 95.22 billion oil palm plantation and refinery plant operated by PT Gunung Mas Raya.

—A Rp 27.72 billion parquet flooring factory operated by PT Gerari Nusa Prima in East Java.

—A Rp 29 billion metal can factory operated by PT Ancol Terang Metal Printing Industri in Jakarta.

—A Rp 13.07 billion particle board factory operated by PT ASA Adi Perkasa.

—A Rp 265.05 billion modern housing complex run by PT Sinar Bahana Mulia in West Java.

—A Rp 21.49 billion particle board factory operated by PT Setyarinni Nugraha Perkasa in East Java.

—A Rp 44 billion hotel and agro-tourism business run by PT Bahtera Cermat Maju in Riau.

The expansion projects include: —A Rp 59 billion palm oil refinery plant operated by PT Invomas Tunggal in North Sumatera.

—A Rp 60.77 billion textile factory operated by PT Chitalex Peni in West Java.

—A Rp 43.65 billion textile factory operated by PT Benang Sari Indah Texindo in West Java.

—A Rp 27.48 billion household appliance factory operated by PT Kedaung Medan Industrial Ltd in North Sumatera.

—A Rp 239.72 billion precious paper factory run by PT Perusahaan Umum Percetakan Uang Republic Indonesia in West Java.

—A Rp 12.65 billion industrial estate run by PT Surabaya Industrial Estate Rungkut in East Java.

Laos

Khamtai Siphandon Addresses Military Officers

BK1403141993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] On the evening of 11 March 1993, at the Meeting Hall of the National Defense Ministry, General Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee's National Defense and Public Security Maintenance Committee, and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, addressed a gathering of middle- and high-ranking army officers organized by the National Defense Ministry to mark the [words indistinct] of the army, to review and assess national defense and public security maintenance work in 1992, to study and discuss the guidelines of national defense and public security maintenance work in 1993, and to study the revolutionary virtue of the late President Kaysone Phomviharn.

At the meeting, Chairman Khamtai Siphandon encouraged the officers to try to clearly grasp and understand the regional and world situations, to clearly understand the socioeconomic reality in our country, and to take note of the implementation of the resolution adopted at the fifth party congress. He hailed the national defense and public security forces as well as our people for making noble contributions to becoming vanguard forces in carrying out the tasks of national defense and national construction and engaging in building the grassroots economy in the countryside, thus bringing peace to the entire country. The chairman also pointed out the remaining weak points and problems that must be urgently resolved. He noted, for example, that attention must be paid to modifying the relationship between the army and people and between (?workers) and combatants, and to building all-around strong units.

Chairman Khamtai Siphandon also profoundly pointed out the direction for upgrading and building our army in the immediate and long-term future and the guidelines for socioeconomic development from now until the year 2000.

In connection with the direction for consolidating and building our army, the chairman said: It must be gradually built into a model, modern strong revolutionary army. We must try to resolve the question of balancing the army's quality and quantity and to maintain the consolidated strength of the entire masses and the armed forces. The army must pay attention to building the grassroots in all localities. All this is the traditional task that must be undertaken by the army. It is also a new duty of our army.

To show gratitude toward Chairman Khamtai Siphandon, Lieutenant General Siphon Phalikhhan, member of the LPRP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the Army General Political Department, speaking on behalf of all officers and soldiers in the entire army, gave the following pledges to the LPRP Central Committee and the government:

1. To maintain unity and singularity around and under the LPRP Central Committee and to graciously fulfill all duties entrusted by the party and state;
2. To remain the mainstay in the implementation of the two strategic tasks of the party so as to deserve their trust;
3. To pay attention to training and educating junior officers and soldiers to profoundly appreciate the party's restructuring line, especially the guidelines on carrying out national defense and public security maintenance work in an all-around manner among the masses, to resist all negative phenomena, to heighten a sense of vigilance, to stand ready to fight and to fight well, and to thwart and resist all sinister schemes of the enemies, especially schemes along the lines of so-called peaceful evolution;
4. To pay attention to building the armed forces to become firm and strong in all aspects by regarding political and ideological campaigns as a primary task and linking them with organizational and policy work and regarding the party and cadre building work as the central task;
5. To attentively do whatever is possible to generally maintain peace by closely linking the work of building grass-roots politics with rural development, to build a public security network among the entire masses, to build villages into fortresses, and to set up groups of combat villages;
6. To educate cadres and combatants to appreciate a sense of self-reliance and self-dependence and to build strength by themselves, as well as to correctly implement the new economic mechanisms outlined by the party and state;
7. To attentively upgrade and improve working methods, to strictly and thoroughly maintain discipline and regulations, to promote democracy within the army, and to effectively implement the principles of three duties and four relations; and
8. To actively build the party into a strong and firm entity, and to closely link the building of party units with the building of all-around strong units.

Khamphoui Keoboulapha Delegation Returns From SRV

BK1703044593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Yesterday, Khamphoui Keoboulapha, political bureau member of the Party Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Board of Laos, and head of the high-level

Lao delegation on a seven-day working visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, returned to Vientiane capital after completing their mission. During the visit, Khamphoui Keoboulapha paid a courtesy call on Do Muoi, general secretary of the Party Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and met with Phan Van Khai, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Vietnam-Laos Cooperation Committee. Khamphoui Keoboulapha and Phan Van Khai exchanged views and experiences on socioeconomic development in their respective countries during the renovation.

On this occasion, the Lao and Vietnamese delegations held consultations on ties and cooperation between the two countries for the immediate future and in the long run. The discussion focused on ways and means to gradually improve and expand the longstanding friendship and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. Furthermore, the Lao delegation also visited economic bases in Ho Chi Minh City and [name indistinct], and especially the rural development projects in southern Vietnam. Throughout the visit, the Lao visitors were warmly received by the Vietnamese party and administrative committees, as well as the people in the Ho Chi Minh City and other places.

Somsavat Lengsavat Meets Australian, Mongolian, DPRK Envoys

BK1703092493 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Yesterday afternoon at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Affairs Minister Somsavat received courtesy calls from Michael Douglas Mann, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Australia to Laos; Dr. Toytigiyn Tomorhuleg, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mongolia to Laos; and Chang Yong-chun, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Laos, who turned up to congratulate him on his recent appointment as new minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

On this occasion, the DPRK ambassador also presented to the Lao foreign minister a statement from the DPRK Foreign Affairs Ministry on the U.S.-South Korean Team Spirit joint military exercise and the International Atomic Energy Organization's endorsement of a resolution requiring special inspection of ordinary military bases of the DPRK.

Somsavat Lengsavat Receives Foreign Envoys 11 Mar

BK1403113693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Mar 93

[Text] This morning at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat received a courtesy call from Masao Wada, the new Japanese ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, who presented his credentials to the president of our country

on the morning of 10 March. Masao Wada congratulated Somsavat Lengsavat on his appointment as foreign affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] in the new government. At the same time, the Japanese ambassador also reaffirmed that he would try his best to carry out his diplomatic mission here aimed at further developing and strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation in many fields.

In return, Somsavat Lengsavat congratulated the ambassador for his appointment by the Japanese emperor to be Japanese ambassador to the LPDR to carry out diplomatic duties. The minister expressed confidence that during the tenure of the new Japanese ambassador to Laos, the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would be further developed with new steps. The LPDR Foreign Affairs Ministry will provide all conveniences and create favorable conditions for the new envoy to effectively carry out his diplomatic mission.

On the morning of the same day, Nguyen Xuan, Huang Guocai, and (Rudov), respectively SRV, PRC, and Russian Federation ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, also called on Somsavat Lengsavat to congratulate him on assuming duty as LPDR foreign affairs minister. The foreign affairs minister and the ambassadors of the said countries stressed the strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation between Laos and those friendly countries, expressing firm confidence that the aforementioned relations and cooperation will be further developed and strengthened both in the present and in the future.

Diplomats Report Deputy Ministers Appointed

*BK1203022393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Mar 93 p 8*

[Text] The Laotian Government, following the recent shake-up, has appointed Mr Souban Salitthilat and Mr Phongsavat Boupha as deputy foreign ministers, diplomatic sources said.

A veteran diplomat, Mr Souban, a deputy foreign minister in the previous cabinet, was retained for the post. Mr Phongsavat was ambassador to China until he was transferred back to the Foreign Ministry late last year, according to one source.

Mr Souban will head the Laotian delegation to Phuket next Wednesday for the Joint Boundary Committee meeting to solve the border demarcation problem with Thailand, another source said.

The meeting will be co-chaired by Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan and Mr Souban.

Laos streamlined the government after a major Cabinet reshuffle last month to pave the way for the younger generation to play a greater administrative role.

The 85-member legislative assembly also elected Mr Nouhak Phoumsavan as president and Mr Khamtai Siphandon as prime minister for a five-year term.

The reshuffle also saw Mr Somsavat Lengsavat, one of the closet aides to the late president Mr Kaysone Phommavihan, become the new foreign minister, replacing Mr Phoun Sipaseut.

Mr Phoun is now deputy prime minister overseeing foreign affairs.

Meanwhile, Mr Buasi Chaleunsouk, the former Laotian ambassador to Vietnam, and Mr Buaban Volakhoun, editor of the daily PASASON, have been appointed deputy information and culture ministers respectively, the sources said.

The assembly also elected a standing committee comprising Mr Saman Vi-gnaket, who is its president, and vice presidents Mr Khambou Sounisai and Mr Vongphet Saikou-Yachongtouna, and four other members.

Mr Khambou was formerly public health and social welfare minister while Mr Vongphet was a member of the Lao Front for National Construction.

The standing committee can make a recommendation to the assembly to elect or remove the president as stated in the Constitution adopted two years ago.

UNDP Sponsors Vientiane Cooperation Meeting

*BK1303134393 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT
13 Mar 93*

[Text] Vientiane, Mar 13 (KPL)—The government aid coordinator and the United Nations Development Program [UNDP] will meet on March 15 to 16 at the Lan Xang hotel in Vientiane to develop regional cooperation in Indochina (?region), according to UNDP press release.

The meeting of aid coordinators (mini-mac), jointly hosted by UNDP and the government of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], will be attended by representatives of the United Nations Development Program and governments of Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam. His Excellency Mr. Phao Bounaphon, minister, chief of cabinet of the Office of the Prime Minister, will give the key note address. Mr. Amanathan Natarajan, chief of the South Asia Division of UNDP in New York will also be present in the two-day conference. The mini-mac meeting will [words indistinct] consider project proposals and expand cooperation [in] the Indochinese region.

The participants will (?discuss) the UNDP (?handed out) dollar U.S. 6 million which has been specially earmarked to (?promote) development cooperation within the region, which (?also includes) the project [word indistinct] in the development of civil aviation, education, economic, environmental [words indistinct] dialogue between the participating countries. The socioeconomic

dialogue proposal drawn up by (?UNDP) in managing inflation, [words indistinct] entry [word indistinct] will be discussed.

Minister Opens Ethnic Youth Music Festival

BK1703074593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] The first Lao Ethnic Youth Music Festival was opened this morning at the Vientiane Theatre in Vientiane. Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, minister of Information and Culture, presided over the ceremony. A total of 254 youth artistes from various ethnic groups from 16 provinces, the Vientiane Municipality, and the Sianghon-Hongsa Special Zone, are participating in the nationwide festival.

The main objective of the festival is to provide opportunities for youth artistes from various ethnic groups nationwide to meet and exchange experiences in the arts and culture. Through this, an appreciation of the arts would gradually be implanted in people, and the standard of performances would be gradually improved. Another purpose of the festival is to revive and exploit the artistic excellence of the multiethnic people so that it will flourish and become the collective property of the country. The festival is to also gradually promote the richness of our national arts and cultural heritage in order to meet the desires of the people. The festival will last till 22 March.

Party, State Leaders Thank PRC Counterparts

BK1703082593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Recently, Comrade President Nouhak Phoumsavan, Comrade Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, and Comrade National Assembly Chairman Saman Vignaket, all of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], separately sent telegrams to thank Comrade President Yang Shangkun, Comrade Prime Minister Li Peng, and Comrade Wan Li, chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress, all of the People's Republic of China, respectively. The thank-you messages were sent after the Lao leaders received telegrams from the Chinese counterparts congratulating them on their election as president, prime minister, and chairman of the National Assembly of the LPDR.

The main contents of the telegrams noted that over the past years, the friendship and cooperation in various fields between Laos and China have improved remarkably and developed corresponding to the desires of the peoples, and thus positively contributing to the economic development of the two neighbors. The telegrams also expressed confidence that with the relentless efforts of both sides, the traditional good friendship and cooperation will improve and develop consistently.

Meanwhile, Comrade Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, has also sent a telegram to

thank Comrade Qian Qichen, state councillor and foreign affairs minister of the PRC, following the latter's telegram congratulating the former on his appointment as LPDR foreign affairs minister. The telegram stressed that the friendship and all-round cooperation between Laos and China, especially between their foreign affairs ministries, which has developed smoothly, will continue to improve.

Foreign Leaders Offer Congratulations to Officials

BK1603135593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 16 May 93

[Text] Recently, Saman Vignaket received a congratulatory message from Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia [SOC]. In his message, Chairman Chea Sim extended his warm congratulations to Saman Vignaket on his appointment as chairman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. He noted that the nomination of Saman Vignaket to the top post has taken place while the Lao party, state, and people are implementing the restructuring line which will become a factor for allowing them to attain great success aimed at once again raising the status, role, and prestige of the LPDR in the international arena, thus contributing to the safeguarding of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and in the world.

On the same occasion, Somsavat Lengsavat, foreign affairs minister, received a message of congratulations from Gareth Evans, Australian foreign affairs and trade minister, who extended his sincere congratulations and best wishes on Somsavat Lengsavat's appointment to the new post of foreign affairs minister of the LPDR. The Australian foreign minister expressed confidence that the long-standing traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries—Australia and Laos—will be continually developed and strengthened.

Thailand

Russia To Make Rice Loan Payment, Seeks New Supplies

BK1603023593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Mar 93 p B3

[By Atchara Phonwittitham]

[Text] The deputy prime minister, the commerce minister or possibly both will travel to Russia soon to try to finalize a rice deal and to pick up the first instalment for a deal already completed with the country.

Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon told THE NATION that the Thai authorities were recently informed that Russia would like to repay the first instalment of an outstanding US\$27 million debt for Thai rice. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English on 16 March, in a similar story, adds: "Russia has paid \$17 million overdue on the first instalment for 200,000 tons

of rice bought in December 1990, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said yesterday.]

And a 500,000-tonne sale—which was proposed earlier but has not yet been finalised—and possibly deals for other products will be discussed.

During the visit, Russia will inform Thailand when it can collect the second instalment for the original deal.

Sales of domestic rice are sluggish at present due to the inability of exports to reach their targets, although the situation has improved slightly.

Thailand is expected to export four million tonnes of rice in 1993. At present, at least 10,000 tonnes of rice are exported every week.

"The government has tried every possible way to release its rice stocks abroad. Under our policy, the government will sell rice even if it fetches lower prices," said Uthai.

Prasong, Christopher Discuss Rights, Child Labor

BK1703072993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Thailand and the U.S. have reconfirmed closer relations and cooperation in the future. Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri conferred with the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher during his visit to Washington D.C. recently. The foreign minister and his party visited the U.S. capital during March the 10th and the 13th. Squadron Leader Prasong says the U.S. praised Thailand for a prompt return to democracy with an elected administration in place. The U.S. also pledges to cooperate with Thailand in solving problems in the future. He has told the U.S. of the Thai Government's firm commitment to human rights as well as its intention to further promote close relations between the two countries. On the intellectual property right issue, the foreign minister says the permanent secretary for commerce will travel to the U.S. this month to discuss the problem with U.S. authorities concerned.

Squadron Leader Prasong also told the U.S. of the Thai Government's concern over child labor and express the hope that with the setting up of the Ministry of Labor, such a problem can effectively solved. The foreign minister also hopes for closer cooperation between Thailand and the U.S. on drug suppression.

Authorities Upgrade Security at Embassies

BK1403012893 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 14 Mar 93 p 3

[Text] The Special Branch Division has tightened security both at the Indian embassy and the Indian ambassador's residence following a series of bomb explosions in Bombay on Friday.

Police recently stepped up security at the Israeli embassy to prevent any reprisals for the Israeli government's deportation of a group of Palestinians late last year.

Special Branch police officers have also been deployed at the Iranian and Iraqi embassies.

North Korea Buys 100,000 Tons of Rice

BK1703093993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters after his meeting with the North Korean deputy foreign economic minister at the Commerce Ministry this morning, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said:

[Begin recording] We have agreed to sell 100,000 tons of broken rice to North Korea on credit with a two-year payment term. The rice can be shipped to that country immediately. The ambassador has also told me that the North Korean delegation will tomorrow sign an aviation agreement with our country. Since the sale is made between the two governments, we do not want to reveal the price; however, it is fairly reasonable. We want them to increase trade with our country. Their products such as iron and chemicals are needed here. Our private sector has listed their products which can be marketed in Thailand. The ambassador told me that he hoped this first contract signed between our two governments would lead to more cooperation in other fields. [end recording]

Firms Continue To Bring in Logs From Cambodia

BK1603025593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Mar 93 p A1, A2

[Excerpt] Ubon Ratchathani—Thai timber firms have been bringing in logs and processed wood from Cambodia through Laos since January to circumvent the United Nations' ban on Cambodian log exports, customs officials and witnesses said.

They said the Cambodian logs were transported aboard Laotian-registered trucks into Thailand through the Chong Mek border checkpoint in the Sirinthon district of this northeastern province.

Thanachai Saksodkhiew, chief of Sirinthon customs office, told THE NATION that since January, more than Bt[baht]68 million in Cambodian wood was imported through the checkpoint.

Thanachai said a few Thai logging firms are still operating inside Cambodia and move the felled logs through Laos into Thailand. Since the logs are certified as originating in Laos, Thai authorities cannot stop their shipments into Thailand.

The Supreme National Council (SNC) in Phnom Penh, with the endorsement of the UN, imposed a ban on log exports from Cambodia at the beginning of this year to protect its forests. It was also designed to pressure the Khmer Rouge to rejoin the peace process. The Chuan government has ordered a total ban on wood imports from Cambodia to comply with the resolution.

Witnesses returning from Laos yesterday said they saw dozens of trucks laden with logs waiting in Pakse, a Laotian town about 50 km from the Chong Mek checkpoint, for their journey into Thailand. "This has been going on for some time," one of the witnesses quoted a Laotian tour guide as saying.

Customs officials said the value of Cambodian timber brought into Thailand through Chong Mek since January is already almost 50 per cent of the whole of last year.

They said at least six Thai logging firms, most based in this border town, are cutting trees in Cambodia. Some of them also run sawmills in southern Laos.

Customs officials said most of the Cambodian logs brought in through Chong Mek were destined for Hong Kong and Taiwan.

SNC last week agreed to allow the export of sawn timber from areas controlled by Phnom Penh. Thai Foreign Ministry officials said the SNC's decision to relax the ban on processed wood was in response to a request by Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Thai timber firms had been lobbying the Thai government to persuade the SNC to ease the restriction on the export of processed wood in Cambodia, claiming heavy losses due to the ban on log export. [passage omitted]

200 Lao Soldiers Cross Border Seeking Tribesmen
BK1303111193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Chiang Rai—About 200 armed troops claiming to be Laotian crossed the Thai border into Thoeng District and sealed a border checkpoint frequented by both Thais and Laotians. The troops threatened to arrest Thai merchants with businesses in Laos if Thai officials do not release two Hmong hilltribesmen by March 17.

The commander of the troops, who identified himself as Lt Col Souban sae Yang of the 417th Battalion, met with Thoeng district officer Nippon Khanthaprap and police from Thoeng and Chiang Klang police stations.

Souban reportedly said his men were dissatisfied with Thai police for arresting the two Hmong on charges of possessing fake Thai and US currency. The two are now serving terms in Chiang Rai prison. Thai officials reportedly told Souban that they could not interfere with the court.

Souban was not happy with the reply and ordered his men to surround the Thai officials, informed sources said, but shortly after, they retreated into Laos, and demanded the release of the Hmong by March 17 at noon.

Mr Nippon said he later contacted Bokeo provincial Governor Thongphan Keophosai in Laos, who denied any knowledge of Souban or the 417th battalion. He suspected the forces may have been anti-Vientiane guerrillas.

The district officer expressed concern that the incident might affect border trade. The border market is open

every fortnight for trading by Thai and Laotian villagers. Laotian forces are expected to launch a crackdown on the suspected guerrillas, said local sources.

Interior Deputy Permanent Secretary Chaiwat Huta-charoen yesterday reportedly ordered local officials to try to settle the problem with their Laotian counterparts, and warn Thai villagers to be more cautious when they travel in the border area.

Lao Soldiers Reportedly Fire on Border Village

BK1503081993 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
15 Mar 93 p 28

[Text] At 0900 on 14 March, the defense radio center of Chiang Rai Province received an urgent radio message from Yutthachai Base in Ban San Ton Pao, Village Group 1, Tambon Mae Ngoen, Chiang Saen District reporting that at 2230 on 12 March Lao soldiers fired an AK-47, submachine gun, and rifle rounds across the Mekong River into Ban San Ton Pao and around Yutthachai Base for about 30 minutes. Earlier, 15 Lao soldiers had set up base on the edge of the Mekong River in Ban Mai Chaochin, Ton Pheuang Canton, Houai Sai District.

The message says inspection by Thai defense volunteers found the home of Niu Kanchok in village group 1, Tambon Mae Ngoen to be damaged. Other damage and casualties could not be ascertained because villagers had fled the area.

At 1730 on 14 March, Chiang Rai Governor Khamron Bunchot and his party made an inspection tour of Ban San Ton Pao.

The radio center received another message at 1730 on the same day from Prayun Wongwanit, the Chiang Saen District officer, reporting that his inspection found four homes to be damaged and no Thai casualties. It was believed the shooting was the result of a clash between Lao Government and antigovernment forces and details were not available at this time.

Governor, Chawalit Comment

BK1503104393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] With reference to a report that artillery shells from Laos last night [as heard] landed in a Thai village in Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province, the Public Relations Department's correspondent in Chiang Rai has reported that the governor of Chiang Rai sent officials to survey the damage, and it was found that the incident did not constitute a deliberate firing into Thailand but was caused by stray shells from fighting between the government troops and resistance forces in Laos.

According to a report received by Governor of Chiang Rai Khamron Bunchot, the fighting took place around Ban Houai Poun, Ton Pheuang Canton, Houai Sai District, Bokeo Province. The fighting between the Lao government troops and resistance forces caused a

number of stray shells to land in Thai territory at Ban San Ton Pao, Village Group 1, Tambon Mae Ngoen, Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province. The shells caused slight damage to two private houses. After being informed of the incident, the governor of Chiang Rai, accompanied by Chiang Rai Provincial Police Chief Police Colonel Amnuai Sukcharoan, visited the village on 14 March at 2100 to survey the situation. He granted an interview to Radio Thailand's correspondent in Chiang Rai on the incident.

[Begin Khamron recording] I am happy to see that the villagers were not frightened, but kept their high morale. Anyway, as I am in charge of the province, what we have to do in this situation is to inform the local authorities in Ton Pheuang, Bokeo Province, of the incident. So I will send a written message to the governor of Bokeo telling him what happened. [end recording]

Interior Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, meanwhile, said this could stem from the arrest by Thai authorities of Lao nationals charged with having forged U.S. dollar currency. He said Thailand must explain to Laos that the arrest was not an act of discrimination; Thailand had to abide by its law. Asked whether the incident would affect the upcoming meeting in Phuket of the Thai-Lao Joint Committee, the interior minister said he did not think there would be any repercussion.

[Begin recording] [Chawalit] We never wanted to hurt our neighbors—they must understand us on this point.

[Question indistinct]

[Chawalit] Well, we have success to a certain level concerning a solution to the border problem.

[Question indistinct]

[Chawalit] The problem of no-man's land has existed for decades, but misunderstandings only occurred just recently. Laos and Thailand have been on good terms. The problem should not be considered that serious. Well, is it something related to the arrest of those with fake dollars? Is it? If this is the case, then there must be a certain misunderstanding. Thailand [preceding word in English] is an easy place from which to escape arrest. It is difficult to arrest them in our own country; we therefore had to follow them into Laos. We must explain to Laos that it was not a case of discrimination. It was not the case of treating the Lao differently from the Thai nationals. We are brothers and friends. We are obliged to observe the principles of justice and law. Please rest assured. [end recording]

Meeting With Laos Not Affected

BK1503141193 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Lieutenant Rawi Hongpraphat, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, gave an interview to newsmen today on yesterday's shelling of Thai territory in Chiang Saen District,

Chiang Rai Province by Lao soldiers. He said the Thai Embassy in Vientiane has been instructed to inquire about the incident, while the Defense Ministry has asked its attache to do the same. In any event, he felt that the shelling was not a serious incident because it was rather light. He said he had no information about the report that the incident was committed by an element which opposed the Lao Government. He assured that the incident would not affect the meeting of the Joint Thai-Lao Commission, scheduled for 16-17 March in Phuket, because Thailand and Laos have always had a good understanding with each other.

Rawi disclosed that opening a border crossing on the Cambodian border at Chong Chom is being considered to help alleviate a shortage of consumer goods in Cambodia.

Vietnam

UNTAC: Khmer Rouge Troops Responsible for Siem Reap

BK1603143593 Hanoi VNA in English 1417 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] Spokesman Eric Falt said in Phnom Penh today that the UNTAC's investigation has established that troops of the Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) faction was responsible for the massacre of 33 Vietnamese nationals in the Cambodian Province of Siem Reap on March 10.

Citing a UNTAC report, Mr. Eric Falt said that the massacre was committed at about 2030 hrs on the night of March 10 by 18 armed men who entered Chong Kneas village from the east on six fishing boats. They killed 33 Vietnamese nationals and wounded 24 others.

The attacking gunmen came in two groups, according to the same spokesman. The first came in four boats and headed for a place where villagers were watching a video film. They opened fire and killed 17 instantly. The second came in two boats and headed for a spot west of the video screening place. They opened fire at a family of 12 and killed nine members of this family. They also killed four people on a nearby boat.

Of the 33 Vietnamese nationals killed by the Khmer Rouge, ten were teenagers and 16 were women.

The attack lasted about 30 minutes. The Khmer Rouge were armed with machine guns, AK-47 automatic rifles and B-40 rocket-launchers. After the attack, they pulled out in the same direction from which they had come.

Mr. Eric Falt also said that a number of the assailants were in Khmer Rouge uniforms and the rest in civilian clothes. He said that all the evidence gathered from the investigation proved that all the assailants were troops of the Khmer Rouge.

VNA Cites World Reaction to Siem Reap Incident

BK1503073393 Hanoi VNA in English 0642 GMT
15 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 15—The United States on March 12 condemned as an outrage the massacre of 33 ethnic Vietnamese villagers in Cambodia by gunmen said to be Khmer Rouge guerrillas. "We think it's an outrage... This is only the latest in a number of such brutal and ethnically motivated attacks over the past year," US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters. He recalled that UNTAC had concluded in the past Khmer Rouge forces had been responsible for previous massacres.

A number of German papers and radio stations on March 12 ran an UNTAC report on the above-said massacre, stressing that this was the biggest bloody massacre against ethnic Vietnamese Cambodians since the Paris agreement on Cambodia was signed in October 1991. A Bonn paper held the Khmer Rouge responsible for the massacre.

The Polish Republic newspapers on March 12 said, the "Khmer Rouge opened fire on all ethnic Vietnamese who were slow to run away from their boats." The DAGENS NYHETER of Sweden on March 12 called the massacre the "most violent" since the four Cambodian sides signed the Paris agreement in 1991. The paper quoted diplomats and commentators as rejecting the Khmer Rouge's allegations that there [are] still 4,000 Vietnamese troops and 2.4 million ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia.

The Lao daily SIENG PASASON on March 13 carried a report pointing out that the massacre was the third reported of the Khmer Rouge's crimes against ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia and that it has thrown more obstacles to the peace process in Cambodia.

Siهانouk's Call for Vietnamese Departure Rejected

BK1703015693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1015 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Hanoi, March 16 (AFP)—Hanoi implicitly rejected Tuesday [16 March] Prince Norodom Siهانouk's call for ethnic Vietnamese to leave Cambodia, instead urging U.N. peacekeepers to protect them from Khmer Rouge "ethnic cleansing." "The Vietnamese living in Cambodia are foreign nationals. They deserve the same treatment as the nationals of other countries," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said when asked to comment on the prince's statement.

"The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), along with the Supreme National Council (SNC) [words indistinct] a responsibility to protect Vietnamese nationals living in Cambodia so they can lead normal lives," he continued. "The international community cannot rightfully allow the Khmer Rouge—

who brought the killing fields to Cambodia in 1975-78—to continue its acts of ethnic cleansing, oppression, terrorism and discrimination against Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia."

Prince Siهانouk on Monday advised Cambodia's ethnic Vietnamese to return to their homeland, saying neither UNTAC nor the SNC, which he chairs, could protect them from "anti-Vietnamese bloodthirstiness" raging in his country. He spoke the week after 33 ethnic Vietnamese fishermen and family members were slaughtered in northwestern Cambodia. UNTAC said Tuesday that the radical Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction was responsible for the massacre. [passage omitted]

Do Muoi, Dao Duy Tung Visit Provinces

BK1503135693 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 11 Mar 93

[Summary] "In early March 1993, Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the party Central Committee, and Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat Standing Committee, paid a working visit to Ha Tinh and Quang Binh Provinces. The objective of the visit was to assess the political, socioeconomic, and national security and national defense situations as well as a number of other problems following the redelineation of the administrative boundaries of some southern provinces.

"While there, Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung held working sessions with the provincial party committees' standing bodies and visited a number of socioeconomic establishments, military units, peasant households, and war invalid families.

"At a working session with the Ha Tinh provincial party committee's standing body, Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung were briefed by Comrade Tran Quoc Hai, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the provincial party committee; Comrade Nguyen Ky, chairman of the provincial people's committee; and a number of comrade members of the provincial party committee's standing body on the implementation of local socioeconomic development tasks and party-building work following the redelineation of the administrative boundaries of Ha Tinh and Nghe An Provinces in September 1991."

As much as 90 percent of the population in Ha Tinh Province is engaged in agricultural production. In 1992, the province produced a record yield of 293,000 tonnes of grain. The movement to allot forest land to local people for production has made fairly good progress. Some 15,000 hectares of forest land have been allotted to more than 3,000 households.

"During their visit to a number of socioeconomic establishments in Thach Ha, Huong Khe, and Cam Xuyen Districts, Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung were briefed on the strong points and shortcomings displayed by local cooperatives in fulfilling their task of

boosting agricultural production and building a new countryside under the guidance of primary party installations, mass societies, and administrative organs."

Thanks to a 137-km-long coast and 13,000 hectares of water surface, the province is very rich in sea products. Comrade Do Muoi reminded the local marine products sector of the need to acquire more deep-sea fishing boats and equipment to increase the current catch, which still remains very insignificant.

In contrast, the movement to promote animal husbandry, especially deer rearing, has strongly developed. As many as 5,000 deer are being reared and high economic results have been achieved. Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung visited a number of households that earned substantial income thanks to deer rearing. They also toured a mineral product processing enterprise in Cam Xuyen District.

"As their visit to Ha Tinh Province coincided with the 34th founding anniversary of the Vietnam Border Defense Force, Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung called on the Border Defense Command and cadres and personnel of the Ha Tinh Province public security service. After inquiring about the well-being and daily activities of cadres and personnel of the two aforementioned units, Comrade Do Muoi commended everyone for their achievements in safeguarding political stability and in maintaining public order and safety to create conditions for socioeconomic development. He also reminded them of the need to positively contribute to making their units pure and strong and to attaching importance to the consolidation of grass-roots units so they can improve their combat strength and contribute to the national renovation cause."

"The comrades also called on Mr. Pham Van Khuong and his family in Huong Khe Township. Mr. and Mrs. Khuong are seriously disabled soldiers and now under home care. Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi cordially inquired about their health and presented gifts to their family.

"Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung also devoted part of their time to visiting teachers and trainees at the Ha Tinh Teachers Training School. Comrade Do Muoi commended the teachers for overcoming difficulties and for satisfactorily fulfilling their task. He also reminded local party organizations, administrative organs at all levels, and mass societies of the need to satisfactorily implement the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum Resolution on education in the new situation aimed at training future generations to carry on their predecessors' national defense and national construction cause.

"Before leaving Ha Tinh, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung met with key cadres in the province. After commending the local party organization, military units, and people for the important achievements they have scored in all fields for more than a year now, the comrade general secretary pointed

out: As far as Ha Tinh is concerned, the consequences arising from the war were very heavy. Ha Tinh is richly endowed with the revolutionary tradition and has been home to many talented people. Noteworthy is the fact that the internal unity among the local party committee and primary party installations has continued to prevail following the redelineation of the administrative boundaries of the province. Thanks to the joint efforts of administrative organs and mass societies, a relatively strong movement to boost production has been whipped up. More capital has been generated to support business operations. However, great potential still exists when it comes to farmland and intensive cultivation. It is necessary for Ha Tinh to do research on crop cultivation patterns and combine cultivation with animal husbandry. Furthermore, it is important to formulate investment projects to ensure effective exploitation of all mineral resources."

"Comrade Do Muoi touched on a number of important issues related to party-building work at present. He expressed the hope that in 1993, which marks a turning point in the struggle to ensure stability and development, the Ha Tinh provincial party organization, military units, and people will score even greater achievements in all fields."

"Following their working visit to Ha Tinh Province, Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung visited Quang Binh Province from 4-5 March. Comrade Tran Dinh Luyen, secretary of the provincial party committee, and Comrade Tran Su, chairman of the provincial people's committee, warmly welcomed Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung.

"Prior to their working session with local officials, Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage toured the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Hospital in the district capital of Dong Hoi. The hospital is a lofty symbol of the friendship between Vietnam and Cuba and also a very significant gift that the Cuban party, state, and people presented to the Quang Binh Armed Forces and people on the occasion of Comrade Fidel Castro's visit to the province in mid-1973."

"In his cordial talk with doctors and hospital workers, Comrade Do Muoi commended everyone for their efforts to fulfill their tasks. He expressed the hope that the local party organization, people, and public health care service will effectively organize the implementation of the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum Resolution on the urgent tasks related to public health care and protection, which are an important part of the human resources development strategy.

"Just as in Ha Tinh Province, while in Quang Binh, Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage focused on one of the important objectives of their working visit, namely, studying the problems concerning peasants and the countryside to prepare the agenda for the party Central Committee's upcoming Fifth Plenum."

Quang Binh Province has met with numerous difficulties in budget allocations following the redelineation of its administrative boundaries more than a year ago. The province, however, has gradually overcome difficulties and has made initial yet fairly important progress in all fields.

"Comrade Do Muoi praised all sectors and echelons for their great efforts to support agricultural production. Particularly, he commended those in charge of farmland irrigation; electricity, sapling, animal breeding, fertilizer, and insecticide supply; and lending to peasant households.

"Quang Binh has a 126-km-long coast and is capable of netting more than 10,000 tonnes of fish and 1,000 tonnes of shrimp of all kinds, including 200 tonnes of tiger shrimp, per year. Local compatriots have positively responded to the shrimp and crab farming movement. The province has allotted 260 hectares of brackish water surface to the various peasant households for shrimp and crab farming and high economic results have been achieved.

"At his meeting with fishermen of the Dong Thanh Cooperative at Hai Thanh Ward in the district capital of Dong Hoi, Comrade Do Muoi analyzed the working methods that fishermen should follow under the management of local cooperatives and state organs at present. The lack of investment to increase the capacities of boats and engines to support deep-sea fishing activities could lead to a complete kill-off of fry and henceforth could cause the depletion of marine products. The comrade also suggested that the sectors concerned review their management mechanisms and formulate a rational sea-based economic development pattern to protect sea resources and guarantee good quality and quantity of catches, thus creating favorable conditions for meeting local and export demands.

"Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and Comrade Dao Duy Tung toured the Quang Binh Clinker Grinding Enterprise, a cement joint venture between the Ministry of Building and Quang Binh Province. The plant was commissioned in early March 1993 and is expected to produce 70,000 tonnes of cement per year.

"Following Comrade Do Muoi's talk about a number of problems concerning management and implementation of socioeconomic development objectives in Quang Binh over the past several years, Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat Standing Committee, addressed a meeting of key local cadres. He asserted that Quang Binh has great economic potential in forest, sea, and nonmetal mineral resources. If the province knows how to bring into full play its potential, uphold the spirit of self-sufficiency and self-reliance, make use of its dynamism and creativeness, combine the assistance provided by the central government and the various sectors concerned with joint investment ventures with the world outside, and heighten the determination to effect changes for the better in all fields, it will create momentum for growth.

"The comrade pointed out: From now until the year 1995, Quang Binh should continue to attach primary

importance to agriculture. Efforts must be concentrated on developing agriculture in all fields and vigorously accelerating forestry work. As much as 12,000 hectares of hilly and forest land remain uncultivated whereas tens of thousands of people are unemployed. Incentive measures must be taken to encourage all economic sectors to engage in the sea-based economy. Practical steps are needed to consolidate and gradually develop industrial, small industrial, and handicraft activities. Plans must be worked out to closely combine socioeconomic activities with national defense and national security-oriented industry as well as to link project planning with market demands, thus creating conditions for gradually shifting local agricultural production from a one-crop to an all-sided system.

"After touching on a number of important issues related to party- building work, Comrade Dao Duy Tung emphasized: Like other provinces, Quang Binh should devote its efforts to satisfactorily implementing political and ideological tasks aimed at enhancing the political background, wisdom, and work efficiency of cadres, party members, and state employees. Continued efforts are needed to improve the quality of primary party installations and truly renovate the leadership skills of party committee echelons. As an immediate objective, it is necessary to adequately organize the effective implementation of the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum resolutions."

Continue Tour

*BK1603142393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 12 Mar 93*

[Summary] "Continuing their trip to the central provinces, on 5-8 March Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung paid a working visit to Quang Tri and Thua Thien-Hue Provinces. On hand to welcome them in Quang Tri Province were Nguyen Dinh Hoan, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the provincial party committee; Nguyen Duong, chairman of the provincial people's committee; and a large number of cadres and people. Upon their arrival in Quang Tri, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung visited and laid wreathes at the Truong Son cemetery."

Although Quang Tri faces numerous difficulties at present, it has favorable geographical conditions and potential in land and labor to satisfactorily carry out the socioeconomic development program. The province has 460,000 hectares of natural land of which 100,000 hectares are fertile. Despite the province's great efforts to increase production and promote business, its income is relatively low. This is due to its poor material bases, backward technology, and serious consequences caused by the war. Nevertheless, the people of Quang Tri are striving to surge forward to make the province prosperous in the near future. They have made great efforts in increasing agricultural production output while engaging in industrial processing, business, and trade as well as in exploiting highway no. 9.

"During their stay in Quang Tri, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung visited the house of former party General Secretary Le Duan—the outstanding protege of President Ho Chi Minh—who devoted his life to the revolutionary cause of our nation."

In their working session with the provincial party committee at Dong Hoi town, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung exchanged views with the local authorities on measures to develop the local economy and that of the Dong Hoi triangle.

"Concluding his working visit to Quang Tri Province, Comrade Do Muoi gave an address to leading cadres of the province. After briefing them on the situation at home and abroad, Comrade Do Muoi commended the province for its achievements over the past three years. He stressed: While engaging in agricultural production, Quang Tri should strive to promote economic development in the hilly region and build more new economic zones in accordance with the agro-forestry model in various forms. The delta area should pay special attention to intensive cultivation, applying scientific-technological innovations to production in the rural area, stabilizing and increasing grain productivity, and promoting animal husbandry.

"He said: Quang Tri is a poor province but it has great potential. Good opportunities are available to many provinces throughout the country including Quang Tri, the province that endured great suffering during the war. Nevertheless, its people are unyielding and diligent while its geographical location is superb with highway no. 9, the Cua Viet Seaport, and thousands of hectares of ferrallitic soil. These are favorable conditions for Quang Tri to strive to become a significant gateway to other provinces. The most important thing for the province now is to engage in correct and effective investment projects. The general secretary also pointed to some work related to the party building task that the province must now carry out."

Thua Thien-Hue was the last leg of Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung's trip to the central provinces. The province is located in a significant area of the central region with time-honored Vietnamese culture and art symbolized in historical relics in the former capital city of Hue.

"Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung, Comrade Do Van Quang, chairman of the provincial people's council; Nguyen Khoa Dien, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee; and Pham Ba Dien, chairman of the provincial people's committee visited and held a working session with the Thuy Huong Cooperative in Huong Thuy District.

"At the cooperative, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung were briefed on the production situation and the daily lives of peasants in the past period. The party leaders expressed their delight to see achievements scored by the local party committee, the administration, mass organizations, and the people, especially their achievements in agricultural production. The province attained an average

yield of nine to 10 tonnes of grain per hectare while its per capita in grain need is 600 to 700 kg.

"Comrade Do Muoi urged the provincial party committee and people to strengthen their unity, continue to bring their achievements into full play, and build a pure and strong party organization so as to lead the people to comprehensively develop the economy, agriculture, handicraft, and animal husbandry while promoting cultural and social activities, thereby contributing to building a prosperous, beautiful fatherland.

"Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage also visited the Hue Teacher College, one of six big colleges in Hue City. Addressing teachers, students, and the intelligentsia working at the college, Comrade Do Muoi commended the institution for its efforts to educate and train students. He said: Hue's party organization and administration should strive to build the city into a center for education and scientific research so as to produce competent graduates for the province, the central region, and the country as a whole.

"Comrade Do Muoi urged echelons and sectors to satisfactorily implement the party Central Committee Fourth Plenum's resolution on education and training, cultural and artistic tasks, and on other important work.

"He stressed: The party Central Committee Fourth Plenum's resolution is aimed at developing the human factor to improve the people's daily lives. We must strive to develop the people's intelligence, to enhance their physical fitness, to improve their spiritual lives, and to encourage the maintenance of good morals. Together with the entire party and people, echelons of the intelligentsia must contribute to carrying out the objectives and tasks set by the party Central Committee while making preparations for the people, especially the younger generation, to advance toward the 21st Century."

During their working visit to Thua Thien-Hue Province, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung also called on Buddhist Venerable Monk Thich Thien Phuong, vice president of the Vietnam Buddhist Church, and Mr. Thich Duc Phuong, chief of the management committee of the Thua Thien-Hue Buddhist Association.

"After visiting a number of the province's economic and social establishments, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung held a working session with the provincial party committee and Hue City party and mass organizations. Leading cadres of the province and Hue City briefed Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage on difficulties and achievements in implementing the political, socioeconomic, and national defense and security tasks during the past period as well as in formulating the socioeconomic development programs for 1993 and the ensuing years."

Before concluding their working visit to Thua Thien-Hue Province, Comrades Do Muoi and Dao Duy Tung held a get-together with veteran and key cadres of the province.

"At the function, Comrade Do Muoi briefed the veteran cadres on situation at home and abroad while Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, addressed the veterans.

"Comrade Dao Duy Tung stressed that in reality, Thua Thien-Hue still faces numerous difficulties. Efforts must be made to help the province amass wealth quickly so as to effectively fight hunger and poverty. About 32 percent of the province's total cooperatives have operated successfully. These cooperatives have effectively developed the peasants' dynamism and have consistently strengthened their cooperative's activities, thereby allowing them to maintain their role in the market mechanism.

"Speaking on the basis of these factors, Comrade Dao Duy Tung emphasized that Thua Thien-Hue should strive to attract more foreign investment and engage in joint ventures with foreign companies to develop and exploit resources in other fields such as maritime products and mineral ores. The province should also formulate plans to promote tourism, to restore historical relics, to beautify its scenic places, and to undertake more infrastructure projects.

"In conclusion, Comrade Dao Duy Tung urged these cadres to pay special attention to the party building task in the present situation. He expressed the hope that the provincial party organization, the administration, and mass organizations will seriously and effectively carry out the resolutions of the party Central Committee so as to contribute to developing the socioeconomic situation in the central region and implementing the renovation undertaking of the nation."

Lao Government Delegation Concludes Visit

*BK1603144193 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—A high-level delegation of the Lao Government led by Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboulapha left here today, concluding its eight-day visit to Vietnam.

While here, the delegation paid a tribute to the late president Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his former home and office.

It was received by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and had talks with a high-level delegation of Vietnamese Government led by Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai. The Lao guests also had working sessions with the State Planning Commission, the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, and the other offices concerned.

The Lao delegation toured Ho Chi Minh City and a number of economic establishments in other southern provinces.

The Lao charge d'affaires in Vietnam was on hand for the above- said activities of the Lao delegation.

National Assembly Standing Committee Holds Meeting

*BK1403072493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Mar 93*

[“Communique of the SRV National Assembly's Standing Committee”]

[Text] The National Assembly's Standing Committee on 4-6 and 8-10 March held a conference under the chairmanship of Nong Duc Manh, National Assembly chairman. SRV President Le Duc Anh and Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh also attended the conference.

1. After hearing the government representative's report on the draft regulations on controlling floods and typhoons; the National Assembly Science, Technology, and Environment Committee's investigative report on the issue; and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee's report on its views, the National Assembly's Standing Committee discussed and approved the regulations.

The regulations on controlling floods and typhoons are composed of stipulations and measures aimed at preventing, controlling, and overcoming consequences of floods and typhoons to save the lives and properties of the people, protect and restore production, minimize losses, quickly stabilize the people's daily life, and protect the environment.

2. The National Assembly's Standing Committee discussed and approved the regulations on implementing court imprisonment verdicts after hearing the government's report and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee's investigative report. The promulgation of the regulations is essential at present because it will help to create a legal basis for ensuring uniform and effective implementation of court imprisonment verdicts. It will also help to strengthen the management and education of culprits so as to provide them with opportunities to repent and become honest citizens, thereby contributing to perfecting the criminal code of our state.

3. The National Assembly's Standing Committee reviewed the government's report on the draft regulations on recognition and implementation of foreign civil courts' verdicts in Vietnam and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee's ideas on the draft regulations. The National Assembly's Standing Committee contributed its viewpoints to the regulations and charged the Government's Regulation Drafting Committee, the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, and the National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee with the duties of further perfecting the draft regulations before submission to the National Assembly's Standing Committee for approval at the next meeting.

4. After hearing the Government's and the National Assembly Economic and Budget Committee's investigative reports on the resolution on supplementing the law on income tax, especially those with high incomes, the National Assembly's Standing Committee discussed and

approved this resolution. This is aimed at appropriately regulating a fair collection of taxes levied on special incomes derived from the transfer of land or house ownership. This resolution will help increase state revenue and contribute to strengthening the management of land and houses.

5. The National Assembly's Standing Committee discussed and issued a resolution on an amendment to export-import tariffs after hearing the government's report on the amendment to the export-import tax structure and the National Assembly Economic and Budget Committee's investigative report on this issue. This is aimed at strengthening state management over export-import activities, encouraging and accelerating exports, supporting and promoting production at home, and increasing state revenue collection.

6. Implementing the Ninth National Assembly Second Session's resolution on legislative work for 1993, the National Assembly's Standing Committee reviewed and contributed ideas to the revised draft law on land, the draft tax law on using agricultural land, and the draft law on oil and natural gas on the basis of the government's report and the ideas of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee and Economic and Budget Committee. The National Assembly's Standing Committee contributed its viewpoints to these draft laws and charged the Government's Law on Land Drafting Committee, the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, the Government's Law on Using Agricultural Land Drafting Committee, the National Assembly Economic and Budget Committee, and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee with the duties of perfecting these draft laws to publicize them to solicit the people's ideas in April 1993 before submission to the Ninth National Assembly at its next session.

The National Assembly's Standing Committee also charged the Government's Oil and Natural Gas Law Drafting Committee, the National Assembly Economic and Budget Committee, and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee with the duties to continue to perfect this draft law for submission to the Ninth National Assembly at its third session.

7. The National Assembly's Standing Committee heard a report on an official friendship visit to Vietnam from 1 to 7 February by the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization [AIPO] delegation led by His Excellency Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir, president of AIPO and chairman of the Malaysian House of Representatives. The National Assembly's Standing Committee welcomed and highly appraised the results of the first significant visit to Vietnam by the AIPO delegation, noted new progress in the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and ASEAN countries in general and between the Vietnamese National Assembly and the AIPO, in particular.

State Banks To Provide More Agricultural Loans

*BK1603143793 Hanoi VNA in English 1408 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—After a successful trial period, state banks and credit institutions have decided to expand direct loans for development of agriculture, forestry, fishery and salt production.

Priority will be given to poor farmer households and people living in highlands, offshore islands, new economic zones and regions inhabited by ethnic minorities.

Allocations of bankloans was first experimented in 1992. According to Mr. Pham Van Thuc, director-general of Agricultural Bank, the bank last year granted loans totalling 2,300 billion dong to 2.6 million farmer households. This not only helped in reducing malnutrition and poverty in the countryside but also in the expansion of banking operations. Mr. Thuc said almost all the farmers had paid their debts on schedule and arrears accounted for just 2.45 percent. The bank plans to give loans to 40 percent of the 10 millions potential borrowers in 1993.

In addition, the bank system is cooperating with provincial administrations in getting cash for the purchase of farm produce. Mr. Le Ho, vice governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, said there would be sufficient cash to buy agricultural products this year. Under the plan, the bank will spend 2,415 billion dong in buying 1.6 million tonnes of rice.

Bank officials predict that food purchase this year will be better than last year as a result of the expansion of credit loans to commercial banks, the payment in cheques and the wider allocation of medium-and long-term loans to farmers.

High-Yield Rice Research Yields Encouraging Results

*BK1703063193 Hanoi VNA in English 0612 GMT
17 Mar 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 17—Encouraging results have been obtained in a development programme for the swampy Plains of Reed conducted jointly by the Southern Agricultural Science Institute and the Belgian Development Cooperation Fund (FOS).

On a pilot area of 20 newly reclaimed hectares, farmers have experimented with different fertilizers and rice varieties to see if they could suit local soil conditions. Now, with phosphorous fertilizer from a plant at Van Dien in Hanoi and a rice variety known as IR 9729, they can produce 3-4 tonnes per hectare as against the 2.2-2.3 tonne yield obtained through oil planting techniques. Experience gained from the pilot project will be applied on a large scale.

Ground Station Ready To Receive CNN Feed

*BK1303094693 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 11 Mar 93*

[Text] To execute an agreement between Pham Khac Lam, managing director and editor-in-chief of the Vietnam Television Network [VTN], and Ted Turner, president of TBS [Turner Broadcasting System], TBS has helped VTN to set up a satellite receiving station so that Vietnam TV can receive CNN newscasts for VTN programming. The installation was just completed recently. Mr. Chu Giang, VTN deputy managing director, and Mr. Ted Turner, the representative for TBS who was in Japan, visited Vietnam to inaugurate the CNN signal receiving station.

Since the establishment of signal receiving stations for Russian and French television programs, CNN marks the third station VTN has helped set up so it can receive foreign television programming and use the information for its Vietnamese TV programs.

Court Sentences Swindlers in 'Major Case'

*BK1603061793 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—The criminal court and the Supreme People's Court sentenced here yesterday Nguyen Le Cuong, an employee of the Vietnam Insurance Company, to 20 years' imprisonment on charge of cheating to usurp socialist property.

The four-day public trial, which was both first and second instances, established that Nguyen Le Cuong, 29, native of Hanoi, had deceived many state economic units into signing phony contracts. In all, Cuong made more than 10 billion dong (about 1 million USD [U.S. dollars]) of illicit gain through his fraudulent acts. Most of this money has so far been retrieved.

This is a major case of swindle and corruption, involving many persons from various economic units. Cuong was given the heaviest sentence. The other indictees got from 3 to 7 years in prison. They also made to return money that has not been retrieved. [sentence as received]

Vo Van Kiet Writes to Cinematographic Workers

*BK1603091593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Mar 93*

[Excerpts of Vo Van Kiet letter to cadres and personnel of the cinematographic sector—date not given]

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet sent a letter of greetings to all artists, cadres, and personnel in the Vietnamese cinematographic sector on its 40th founding anniversary on 15 March.

After affirming the praiseworthy achievements of the Vietnamese national cinematographic sector during the past 40 years, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said:

In the renovation process, we have made encouraging progress in the economic, cultural, and social domains. However, we are facing difficulties in certain areas of cultural and artistic activities that must be ironed out with prompt measures.

The government has decided to modify the organizational and operational systems of the cinematographic sector. It has also defined policies and measures with the aim of enabling the cinematographic sector to continue its development in the new stage. Whether these policies and measures can be implemented effectively depends on the effort, initiative, and determination of those in charge of the cinematographic sector and all the brothers and sisters engaged in cinematographic work.

The government always considered cinematographic work as one of the most important cultural activities in the nation's spiritual life, as well as an artistic means with influential effects on the people's feelings and a bridge for cultural relations with the world community. In that spirit, let us preserve and develop Vietnamese cinematography into one that is modern and can vividly manifest national characteristics and one in which all artistic values are appraised and all talents are brought into full play.

It is necessary to prevent all manifestations of commercializing cinematographic activities and the diffusion of film series' that are detrimental to human dignity and the aesthetic taste of viewers.

It is also necessary to continue restoring order and discipline in the operational machinery of cinematography, from production to distribution and showing of the films throughout the country. That is the responsibility of the government and also the common responsibility of all the brothers and sisters engaged in cinematographic work.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet expressed the hope that with the government's assistance, the brothers and sisters engaged in this work will continue developing their achievements in order to make the cinematographic sector worthy of the country's time-honored cultural traditions and a nation that has gone through many great ordeals and is determined to build a new society.

Fiji**Rabuka Offers To Drop National Unity Government Plan***BK1603092093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0553 GMT 16 Mar 93*

[Text] Suva, March 16 (AFP)—Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka has offered to scrap plans for a government of national unity which would have included representatives of Fiji's ethnic Indian community, it was reported Tuesday. The Daily Post quoted Rabuka as telling native Fijians they must accept "close interaction between the races." But he said he would not attempt to force racial harmony on the country through a government of national unity.

"I would rather have national unity than a unity government if the choice has to come to that," he told members of provincial councils on the main island of Viti Levu.

Rabuka, a former army commander who toppled the Indian-backed government of Timoci Bavadra in May 1987, became prime minister after parliamentary government was restored in May last year. The general election was held under a new constitution, passed in 1990 by a military-backed government, which guarantees a parliamentary majority and control of the government to indigenous Fijians.

Speaking at Rakiraki, on the coast about 180 kilometres (115 miles) northwest of here, Rabuka said Indians had no future except in Fiji. "Fijians should do away with what their ancestors told them—that they should be wary of Indians," he said.

"Close interaction between the two races is needed to wipe away the fears they have of each other ... we should all work together for the betterment of our nation." Rabuka asserted that Indians "make up 40 percent of our population and have no say in the day-to-day running of our country."

The figure is lower than official estimates of 1989, that there were 352,000 indigenous Fijians, 337,500 ethnic Indians—descendants of those who were brought here in the 19th century by British colonists to work the sugar-cane fields—and about 37,000 Europeans, Chinese and other minorities in Fiji.

But Rabuka said there would be no changes to the 1990 constitution to accommodate a government of national unity. Rabuka began a tour of Viti Levu on Monday to assess people's reaction to his proposal for a government of national unity, made during his November budget statement to parliament.

The leaders of the Indian-backed National Federation Party, JaiJam Reddy, and Labour Party, Mahendra Chaudhry, have agreed to the proposal which Rabuka is to put to the next meeting of the Great Council of Fijian Chiefs in May or June.

Rabuka said his proposal "was done in good faith" and that his motive was "to involve the Indian people in government decision making." He said a cabinet sub-committee headed by co-deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Filipe Bole was preparing a paper for the Great Council of Chiefs. "It will entirely be up to them to endorse the committee's report or not," he said. "If the concept is not adopted then that will be the end of it."

Some chiefs have said Rabuka's proposal defeats the purpose of the 1987 coup. A government back bench and high chief, Ratu Ifereimi Buaserau, called Monday on Rabuka to step down if the "chiefly ideals" in the 1990 constitution are not fulfilled. "I am surprised that the very man who led the 1987 coups is now desperately trying to return power to the Indians," he said. Rabuka brushed aside the statement as "senseless gossip."

Niue**Parliament Elects Frank Lui Premier***BK1303050893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0341 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[Text] Auckland, March 13 (AFP)—Parliament on the tiny island of Niue in the South Pacific has elected Frank Lui as premier, narrowly defeating Acting Premier Young Vivian 11 votes to nine. The 20-member Fale Fono, or parliament, elected Lui, a former labour minister who, in September 1990, mounted a bid to oust then-premier Sir Robert Rex. But Lui failed and lost his cabinet post. Rex died late last year and Vivian, a former secretary-general of the South Pacific Commission, filled the office until the parliament vote.

Niue, a remote 258 square kilometre (103 square mile) upraised coral island midway between Samoa, Tonga and the Cook Islands, is home to 2,200 people. Another 12,000 Niueans live in New Zealand.

Niue, legally defined as "self governing in free association with New Zealand," is highly dependent on aid from Wellington. Niueans have for the last couple of years been warned New Zealand is going to sharply cut its aid.

However, Lui has promised 12.5 percent pay rises to all civil servants and pensions for the elderly. With virtually no exports and only a tiny tourist industry, it is unclear how Lui plans to pay for the promises, if implemented.

Papua New Guinea**Wingti Calls for Review of Republic Status***BK1703062793 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 93*

[Text] Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Paias Wingti, says his country will consider breaking its ties with the British monarchy to become a republic. Speaking in Parliament, Mr. Wingti said after 17 years of

independence, it was time PNG reviewed its constitution. He said it was costing money to maintain the office of governor general, the queen's representative in PNG, which was not necessarily relevant to the country's future. Mr. Wingti said PNG needed to have its own identity.

He suggested that a committee currently looking at the role of provincial government in PNG should also examine the country's ties to the queen of England to see if a republic was needed.

Western Samoa

Government Approves New Sales Tax

BK1303045593 Hong Kong AFP in English 2157 GMT
12 Mar 93

[Text] Apia, March 12 (AFP)—A bill establishing a 10 percent goods and services tax (GST) on all commercial transactions passed through parliament Friday [12 March] and only needs the assent of Head of State Malietoa Tanumafili II to become law. Opposition Leader Tupua Tamasese Efi slammed it, saying "GST is the harshest tax measure imposed on an overtaxed community" and comes at a time of a worsening economic situation. A limited GST was imposed in the mid-1980s by former Prime Minister Va'ai Kolone on hotels and restaurants. He said at the time GST should be ultimately extended to all transactions. Va'ai, now deputy opposition leader, said this week the country was not ready for it.

He said the "country's clothes" were not yet dry from cyclones Ofa and Val which have ruined wide areas of the country in the last three years and now the government was planning yet another burden on people.

Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana replied that everybody, including MPs, was poor but that did not stop the government from doing what was good for the country's

future, no matter how unpopular its actions were. The government claims GST is a fairer form of taxation with everyone sharing the responsibility of contributing to development. Tofilau claims GST will also be the key to lower income tax.

But Tupua Tamasese said details of income tax reductions have not yet been made public. He said unlike Australia, where a case for GST can be argued because just about everyone earns a regular income, many in Samoa earn little or no money. The new tax, he said, was an effort to help the government, which had run out of money. He said it would not help. "The money problems are too deep," he said.

Solomon Islands

Mamaloni: PNG's Wingti Breaks Bougainville Vow

BK1703061993 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 17 Mar 93

[Text] The Solomon Islands prime minister, Solomon Mamaloni, has accused Papua New Guinea's [PNG] prime minister and his deputy of failing to keep their election promises made last year to settle the Bougainville conflict peacefully. Mr. Mamaloni also said Paias and Sir Julius Chan could not continue to blame others for their failure to resolve the Bougainville issue. Mr. Mamaloni made the claims in a strongly worded letter to Sir Julius in response to claims by the PNG deputy prime minister concerning the alleged involvement of Solomon Islands in the Bougainville crisis.

Mr. Mamaloni said that after having won last year's election, the Wingti government, instead of pursuing a peace policy, had poured money and resources into Bougainville to continue the random killing of innocent people.

Mr. Mamaloni added that he could not be making the Bougainville conflict an issue in the campaign for the Solomon Islands elections which are due to be held in May.